

News editor Lee Mallett 01-858 7777 ext 473.

Plans put industrial classic in danger of redevelopment

ONE of Britain's "classic" industrial buildings of the 20th century, the Brynmawr Rubber Factory in South Wales, is threatened with demolition.

Designed by the Architects Co-Partnership and Ove Arup in 1946 and completed in 1952, the factory was listed by Cadw — the organisation set up by the Welsh Office to look after Wales' historical and architectural heritage six months ago.

It is the only post-war building in England and Wales to have been listed.

Plans for the factory's demolition are being put forward by Tenby Ltd, a Jersey-based property company. It has received a £200,000 grant from the

Welsh Development Agency for clearing the site, and has the added possibility of an urban development grant from the DoE and the local authority.

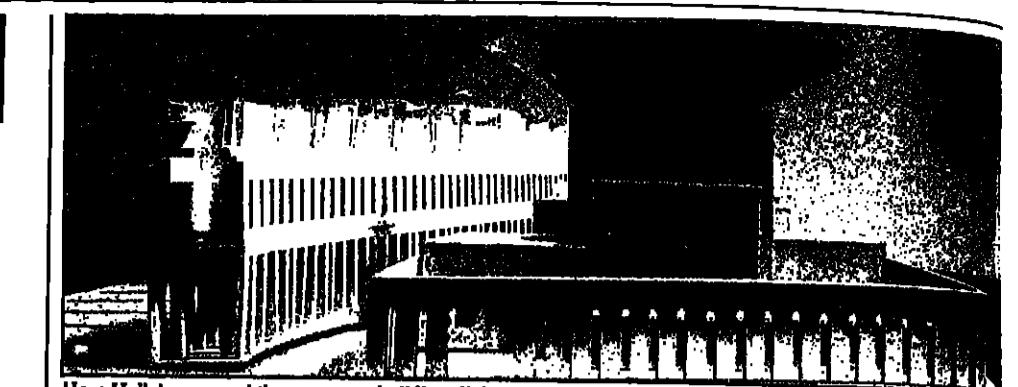
Tenby plans to demolish the concrete-domed structure to make way for car parking and

By Amanda Ballieu

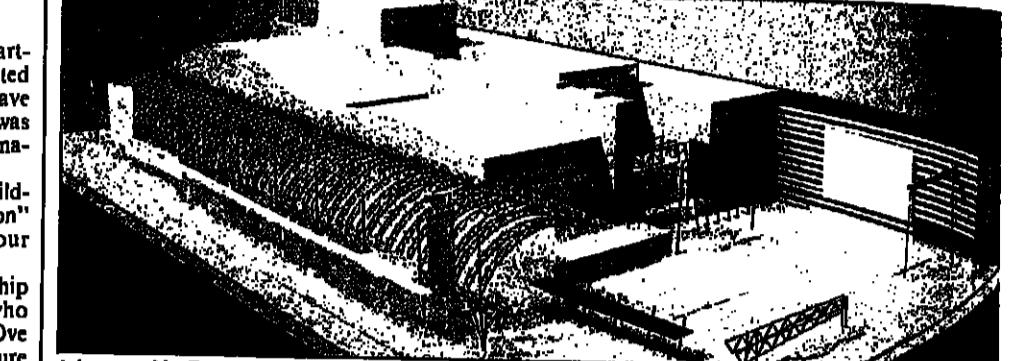
improved access to steel-framed sheds on the site. Once the site is cleared more units are planned.

A spokesman for Blaenau Gwent council said: "In my opinion the factory is not an aesthetic beauty, and would be better used for redevelopment and attracting employment into the area."

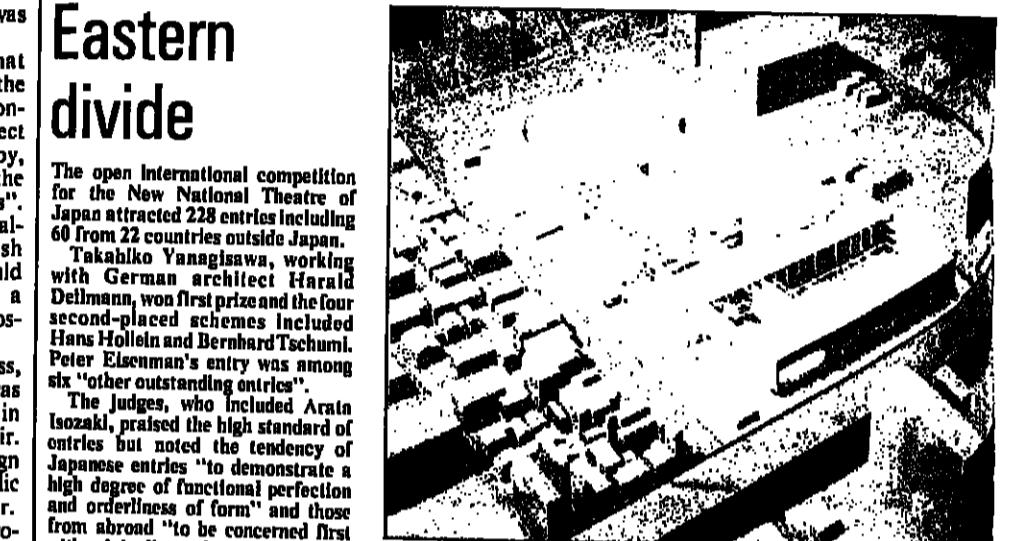
He said architects acting for



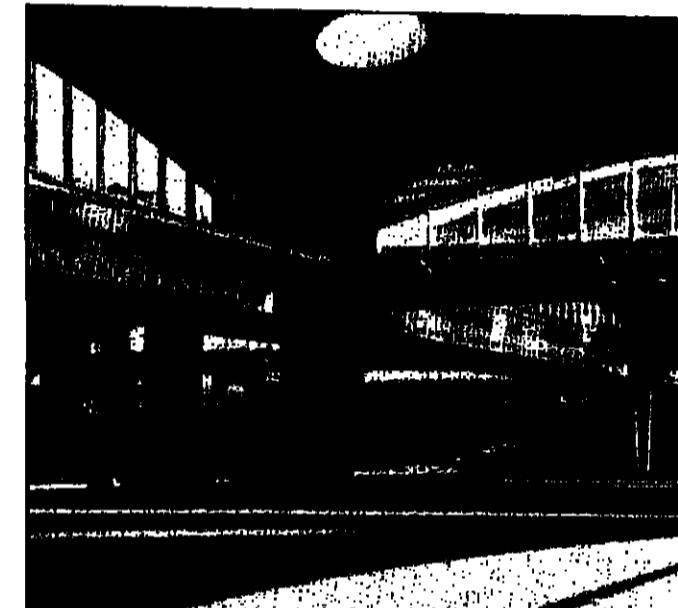
Hans Hollein proposed three separate buildings linked by a linear gallery.



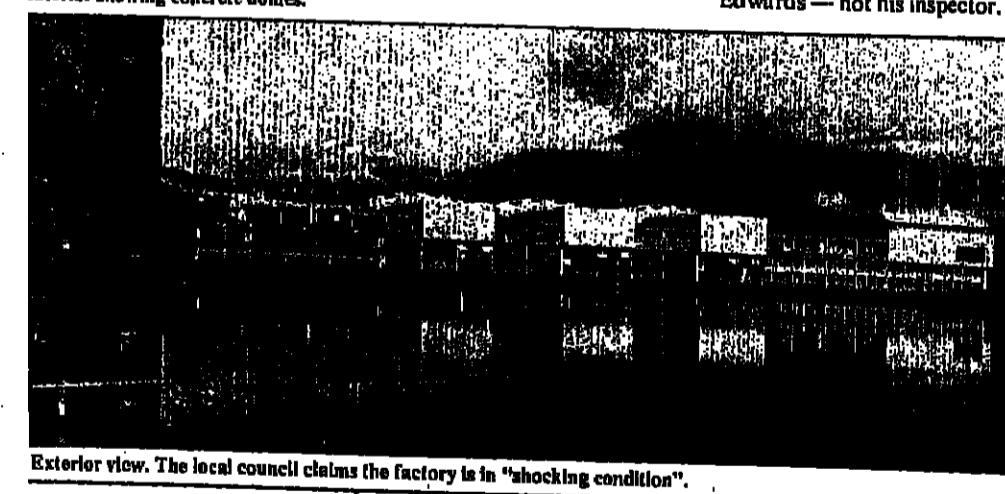
Joint second by Bernard Tschumi, winning architect of the La Villette Park in Paris.



Competition winner by Takahiko Yanagisawa.



Interior showing concrete domes.



Exterior view. The local council claims the factory is in "shocking condition".

...signing off...



A SPURIOUS SIGN OF CONFIDENCE

Architects missed at conference

THERE were architects at the conference on "Buildings and Behaviour" at St George's Hospital, south London, this week — but not many. Mostly the delegates were psychiatrists, social workers, GPs and hospital doctors, townplanners and even members of the DoE.

The Biocial Society organised the conference to look into the effects of town planning and building design on health and behaviour.

The varied programme included papers on designing guides to provide space for the

new affluence and materialism in the home of the 60s by Norman Shepherd, suitable containment and design provision for catering with the mentally ill and dangerous in regions secure units by Dr Peter Snowden, and the case for and against overhead walkways, deck access, and playareas from geographer and land-use specialist Alice Coleman.

Coleman advocated that walkways be removed and public and semi-public areas around blocks of flats be redefined as places of ownership, such as walled gardens. This would, she said, relieve those who had felt forced to board up their windows and allow them to enjoy natural daylight and encourage mothers

to let their children out to play and grow in confidence so that later they would not cling to the playgrounds.

There was not, as far as I could gather, any contingency for families living above the ground floor.

The question of play areas became one of debate. Coleman reckoned they should be taken out of the estate and placed in traditional parks; they were never big enough around flats which meant balls being kicked through windows and more conflict. Tenants, said Coleman, hated them. Tony Gibson, who was instrumental in devising Town & Country Planning Association policy such as *Planning for Real*, found that

Planning for Real, found that given the opportunity to determine their environment residents favoured adventure playgrounds.

Dr Hugh Freeman, a psychiatrist at Salford University, felt that anything which maintained the social fabric of family and community life should be encouraged.

The demise of the Victorian street where children could run around together and mothers chat on the doorstep, and the disappearance of the corner shop as a point of integration, was not a cause for congratulation.

Coleman and Freeman clashed on more than one subject. Coleman's studies of flats and housing indicated that levels of crime and disorder were high in both turn-of-the-century and

60s and 70s housing, while terraced developments of inter-war years produced relief. Freeman countered while crime statistics may have improved, the demolition of landmarks produced anonymous and disorderly breeding ground for psychiatric problems.

Fiona Gore

RIBA strategy

A NEW RIBA members' report under the leadership of Peter Rock and Fred Roche will be used to examine the marketing, architecture and devise a promotional strategy, the institute's annual policy committee decided this week.

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BUILDING DESIGN

The weekly newspaper for the design team

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1986

Appeal over pier design

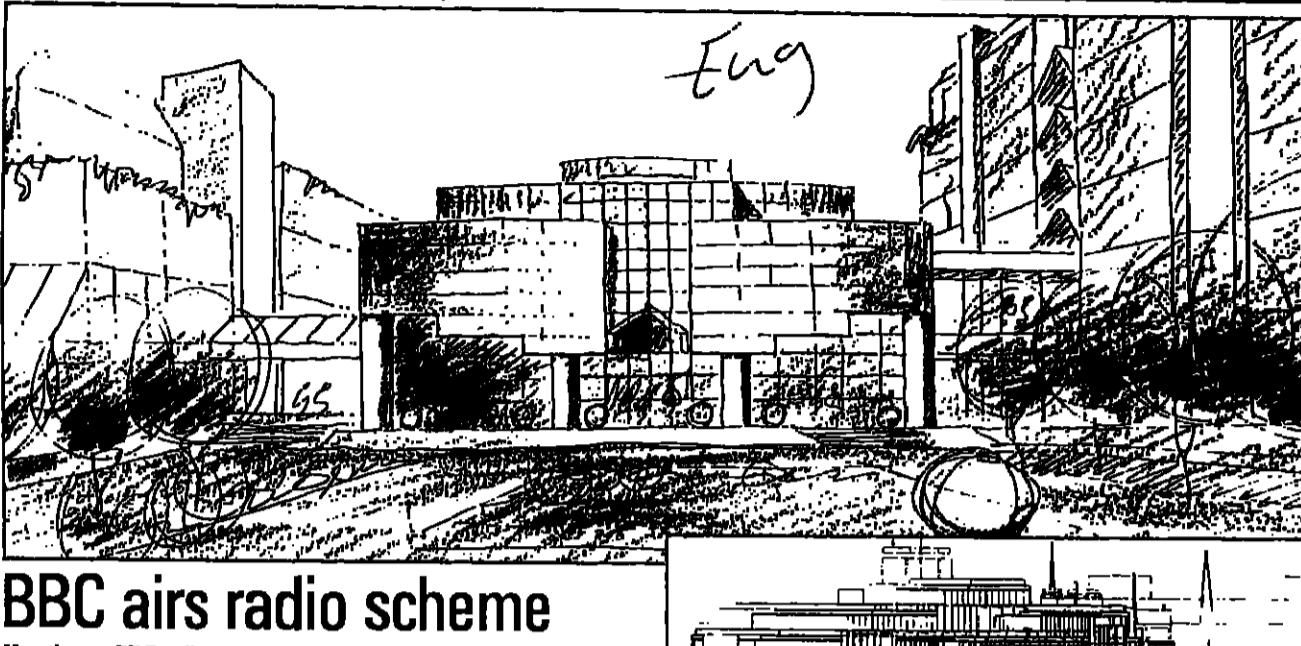
THAMES Water Authority is to appeal against Westminster council's decision to block plans for a £6 million leisure pier at Westminster.

English Heritage said this week the new pier would adversely affect the setting of Westminster Palace, Westminster Bridge, County Hall, St Stephen's Club building, Norman Shaw's Scotland Yard and Whitehall Court, all of which are listed buildings.

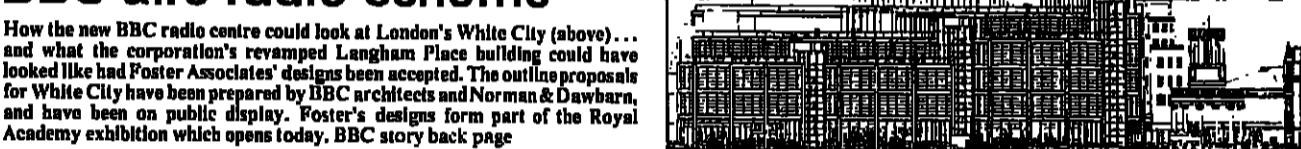
Thames Water said it intends to "stick with the original design".

A spokesman said the 110-year-old pier was not in "tip-top condition" and a substantial amount of money would need to be spent over the next 18 months if it was to remain safe.

Attempts to replace the pier have had an unhappy history in recent years, including a failed competition and an unsuccessful design by the GLC.



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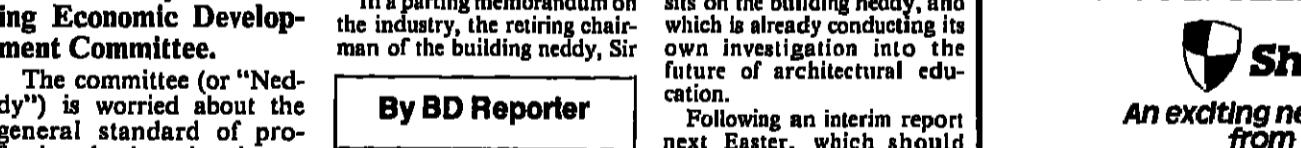
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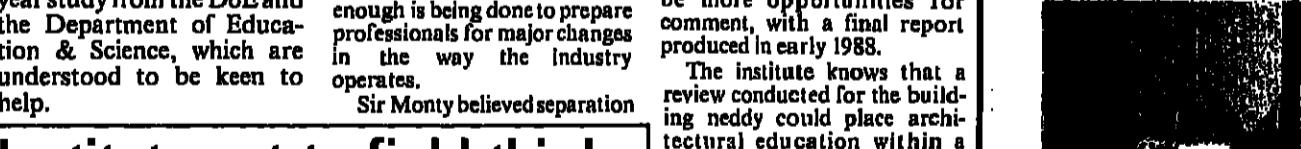
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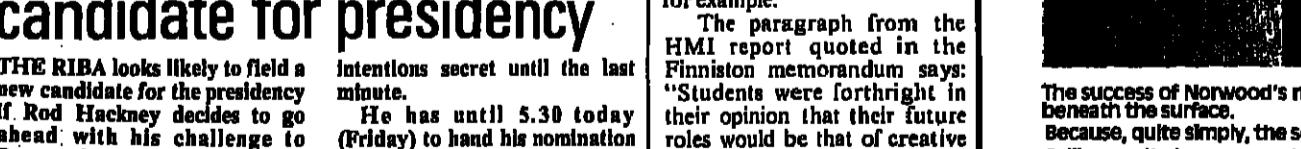
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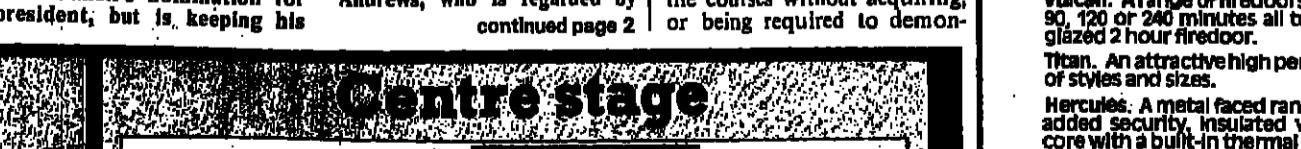
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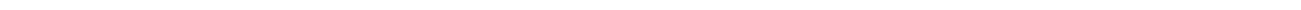
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THE beneficial effects for London's prosperity arising from the "Big Bang" could be strangled — unless the capital's property market loosens up to accommodate exploding demand for new office space from both the Big Bang players and the supporting service industries.

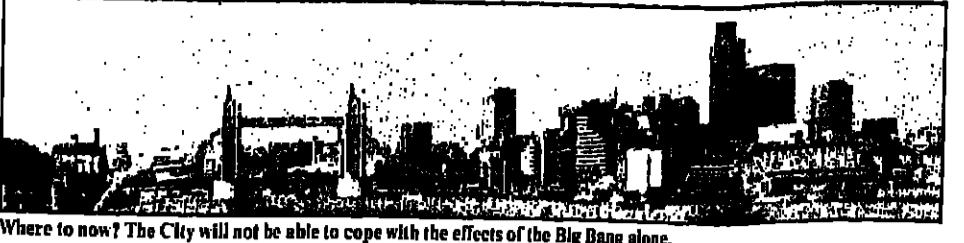
Research has revealed that demand for new office space could be much greater than most of the property market has hitherto anticipated. For up to one third of London's 140 million sq ft of offices may have to be torn down and redeveloped over the next five to 10 years in order to cope, according to estate agents Edward Erdman in their latest report on the City's property market.

Contrary to the relatively conservative forecasts of their colleagues in the City, Erdman forecast: "We may be entering a period of double our previous annual take-up, sustained for at least the next five years, if not longer." Current take-up is reckoned by most agents to be around the 3.5 million sq ft a year mark.

The City of London alone is not going to cope with this. If the full potential of Big Bang is to be realised, then the cities of London and Westminster, and the eight surrounding local planning authorities, are going to have to look long and hard at their planning policies.

As for the City itself, the corporation's revised draft local plan is coming under fire again from the property fraternity, which pressured the City to amend it in their favour only a few months ago.

"By designating 28 per cent of the City's area (and nearly 90 per cent around the Bank itself) as



Where to now? The City will not be able to cope with the effects of the Big Bang alone.

Containing the explosion

conservation areas, and by applying a difficult approach both to renewal and to satisfying the needs of occupiers, there is a definite chance that the central City area will become little more than an architectural museum piece of the 19th century," says Erdman's.

Research from a new independent property organisation Applied Property Research with designer Fitch & Co (which has set up a division specifically aimed at office and hi-tech occupiers), highlights one sector where demand is likely to prove colossal — the Japanese.

The Japanese are one of the key players in what has been dubbed the post-Big Bang race. "Big Bang is dead as a property market issue, long live post-Big Bang," says Geoff Marsh of APR. It is dead, claims Marsh, because virtually everybody has taken their positions in the gilt and equities markets.

"The next wave of growth is the globalisation of investment banking. This brings us to the

Japanese. If the Japanese are going to have significant presence here, then there must be enormous growth in their property requirements."

APR/Fitch's research ranks foreign banks in London in terms of world size, and then alongside, charts the number of staff each bank now houses in London. American bank Citicorp, for example, employs well over 3,000 people here. Second in the world pecking order, Dai Ichi Kangyo, has a paltry three score. In rough terms, each person occupies between 150 and 200sq ft of office space.

Clearly the Japanese have to expand rapidly; first to catch up with the operations of their American competitors, and secondly to expand beyond that as the new market place grows.

So far the Japanese have taken unglamorous second-hand space. But Nomura, the biggest Japanese securities house, recently decided to take the scheme which will replace the old Post Office building at St

Paul's.

Edward Erdman identifies 35 schemes over 50,000sq ft in the City, E1, the south bank and in Docklands, totalling more than 11 million sq ft which could start in 1987. This excludes Canary Wharf.

So the potential for supply to balance demand is there — but will planning policies get in the way?

RICHARD SILVERMAN is a member of the City Corporation planning committee.

He said Maidenbower was

desperately in need of more housing.

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Sugar candy adventurer

Helmut Jahn presented a capacity audience with a procession of glass stumps on Tuesday night, writes Tim Ostler.

SHOULDERS padded like a Chicago Bears quarterback, Helmut Jahn presented his work for inspection to a packed Jarvis Hall on Tuesday night.

During one of the brief periods of intelligibility in a talk otherwise weighed down with jargon like so much tottering masonry, John described his goal as to "bring back romance and adventure into architecture".

Unlike Philip Johnson, he believes in combining historical references with modern constructional methods. "Combining stone, glass and metal in a very thick skin," he said, "removes some of the Modernist bias against natural materials."

But, as the slides continued, the assembled throng saw Jahn become more and more detached from questions of detail, as in a procession of fancy dresses of old-fashioned Modernism and of the legacy of Mies. But, when one young member of the audience asked politely how he could bring himself to work in South Africa, whose system he said was "infinitely more disastrous than the works of Mies van der Rohe", Jahn found himself taking a leaf, involuntarily, out of the master's book: "I'm an architect, not a politician," he declared.

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old-fashioned Modernism and of

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News

Torquay schemes under fire

TORBAY council is under fire from conservationists for listing four massive schemes proposed by a consortium of American banks. Cautious and inscrutable they may well be, but the Japanese may be forced to ditch their more traditional inclinations and consider a trip to Docklands, along with other less hidebound operations.

All this bodes well for Canary Wharf in London's Docklands — the 10 million sq ft scheme proposed by a consortium of American banks. Cautious and inscrutable they may well be, but the Japanese may be forced to ditch their more traditional inclinations and consider a trip to Docklands, along with other less hidebound operations.

The four schemes, by Chapman Taylor Partners, Dyer Associates, and Sheppard Robson, all plan to demolish large parts of the Victorian and George Street/Swain Street/Grey Street sector.

Similar plans by developer John Laing and architects are being considered earlier this year.

Local groups who produced £12 million scheme to redevelop the area, restore many of the buildings and still provide

design space.

Increasingly image-conscious,

corporately competitive, and computer-driven, the largest of the professional partnerships — or more often today, companies

— are all upgrading their headquarters. Even though many of them are growing fat on the back of Big Bang and corporate takeover hysteria, they are still being forced from their traditional City and midtown haunts by rising City rents. Even West End rents are moving beyond their reach, because the larger buildings are now regarded as bank fodder. Supply in both the City and the West End has all but dried up until after 1987.

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desperately in need of more housing.

Massive Crawley 'neighbourhood' draws local fury

A MASSIVE new "neighbourhood" planned for Crawley in East Sussex has drawn a storm of protest from angry local residents.

With the proposed closing of the green belt to housebuilders, following the appointment of William Waldegrave as the Government's "green" minister, Crawley residents fear that Nicholas Ridley will back the Maidenbower scheme.

The development — known as Maidenbower — is for 3,750 homes plus schools and shops. It is being proposed by a consortium of Bryant Homes, Taylor Woods Homes and Wimpey Homes.

After a long battle for the 150ha site from local farmers, the land has been singled out for large-scale development in the alterations to the Sussex County Council structure plan.

But the structure plan still needs to be formally approved by the secretary of state. A decision on the first draft is expected this month.

A planning officer from the county council said there had been "a number of environmental objections to the Maidenvower development, predominantly the loss of landscape to the south-east of Crawley and the loss of agricultural land".

The land is not green belt.

The structure plan does not make any specific reference to the size of the development, although it envisages around 2,500 homes by 1996. The assumption is that if Maidenbower were to increase in size adjoining land would have to be

reduced.

There are also complaints that locals have not had time for adequate appraisal, informed comment or effective opposition. A public exhibition was criticised for being too short — it rained for 11 days — and providing minimal detail.

One architect resident told BD that there had only been time for one local meeting, chaired by the local rector, which was attended by 350 very angry locals".

A spokesman for the consortium admitted there had been "a fair bit of local opposition", but said: "Things must get worse before they get better."

He said Maidenbower was

desperately in need of more housing.

Insurance worries over prc repairs

DISCUSSIONS are taking place on the possible abandoning of the insurance element of the Government's scheme to repair precast reinforced concrete homes, sold under right to buy legislation.

This is because the company behind the scheme, AA Mutual Insurance, has recently seen its South African parent company fail.

Although the UK subsidiary remains solvent, the public interest and political sensitivity surrounding the prc scheme has made both the DoE, which produced the Housing Defects Act to protect purchasers, and the National House-Building Council, which reluctantly agreed to administer the scheme, think about eventualities.

One of the problems is that the AAMI rates, described by NHBC as "the only sensible quote we got", were very low, at just over £300 per house.

This was probably because the company was just entering the UK market and prepared to take on the prc scheme as a prominent loss-leader. All efforts to get quotes approaching these rates from other insurers have since failed.

The NHBC is so worried

about the repercussions of a possible AAMI collapse that it is insisting on DoE guarantee that prc buyers would be protected in the event of the company going bust.

Another alternative, that NHBC should take over the insurance itself (it is an insurance company in its own right, but only operates as such in the case of new homes under its 10-year warranty), has also been considered.

But again the NHBC would only be prepared to do this if the Government were prepared to protect it by guarantee against "exceptional losses".

The third alternative would be to dispense with insurance cover altogether, relying instead on the strict control of prc repair schemes and the professional liability and indemnity policies of the professionals — mainly consulting engineers — who have had repair schemes approved.

The main problem with this simple-sounding solution is building society insistence on insurance cover before they will advance mortgages on prc homes repaired under the NHBC scheme.

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Church put in the dock over demolition scheme

A PUBLIC Inquiry into rival plans for the future of St Albans' Church, Teddington, opens this week.

The church was designed by William Niven and built 1886-89.

After it was made redundant in 1977 the Church Commissioners, on the advice of the London Diocesan Fund, made a redundancy scheme for its demolition.

This was against the advice of the Advisory Board for Redundant Churches.

The case has become an ecclesiastical cause célèbre — this

is the first time a non-statutory public inquiry has been held into a redundant church in London.

A separate statutory inquiry into the failure of the London Diocesan Fund to obtain planning permission for new church hall, a new mixed residential

Miller, Tritton & Partners.

This completes the west end of the church, and involves construction of new church hall, a new mixed residential

development including 18 sheltered ground-floor flats and 18 maisonettes arranged in a "cathedral close"-like form to the west of the listed building.

It did, however, approve the scheme by Save and the Victorian Society.

Richmond council refused the London Diocesan Fund planning permission, but approved the scheme by Save and the Victorian Society.

John Tilley Associates, archi-

tects acting for the London Diocesan Fund, have produced a rival scheme allowing for the subdivision of the church into 51 flat units, plus 52 new retirement homes in a large five-storey u-shaped block linked to the unfinished western end of

Plans to turn St Marks, North Audley Street, into an American style hamburger restaurant were refused.

Meanwhile, Save and the Victorian Society submitted a scheme by architects Purcell,

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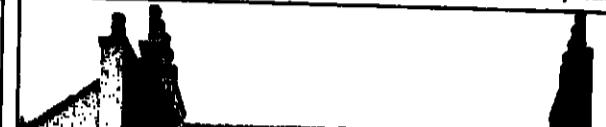
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Refurb for listed houses

Work has just finished on Central & City Properties' £750,000 refurbishment of 17/19 Alle Street in London's East End. With architects C A Corlett Associates they have added a basement and produced 270sq m of office space retaining many original features in the pair of listed 18th century houses.



Rolland speaks out over privatisation of services

RIBA president Larry Rolland has called on the Government to drop any proposals to privatise services provided by local authority

architects.

Speaking at the Society of Chief Architects of Local Authorities annual conference, he praised the service provided by in-house

architects and said: "The RIBA believes that excessive equal

privatisation in this area could in fact make it extremely difficult for

authorities to achieve the kind of efficiency of estate management and

environmental benefits for which the public is now calling."

Rolland said it would be a mistake to assume that because the new

build programmes are reduced, the importance of a strong in-house

architectural presence is diminished.

"Sustained and co-ordinated administration is necessary in order that the most economic and environmentally attractive solutions emerge," he said.

Labour Housing Group has launched its programme to combat seven years of Tory rule and to combat the massive

backlog of housebuilding and renovation.

The main points in the programme are:

- compulsory purchase of inner-city land for housing.
- construction of one million new homes and the renovation of 4.5 million existing dwellings;
- expansion of the building industry in a 10-year programme of housebuilding and improvement;
- improving existing local authority direct labour organisations and setting up a new National Building Corporation;
- protection of the green belt as a public recreational resource;

HEAD of the metropolitan planning unit in Belgrade, Milos Perovic, will give a talk entitled "With Man in Mind" at the RIBA on Tuesday, October 7, at 6.15pm. His talk accompanies an exhibition on its second-floor gallery.

Man in mind

Funny things happen on the way to the

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News

Fighting vicar wins campaign

COUNCIL officials in Oxford have red faces after a DoE enquiry team overturned a planning refusal for a vicarage and took the unusual step of awarding costs against the council.

Reverend Martin Flatman, who had been campaigning to build a vicarage on land near Bartlema's Cottage, Cowley Road, said the award implied that council officers had been "bloody-minded" and had given wrong advice.

It was wrong that local ratepayers would have to pay the bill for the council's legal costs and architects' fees.

Oxford City Council refused planning permission for the vicarage on the grounds that Bartlema's was one of the few remaining rural areas of Oxford.

It lost after two appeals and the vicarage is due to start on site next year.

Top of the ILEA class

THE London Institute's Design Show opens at the Royal Festival Hall on October 7 and will run until October 25.

Staged by the Inner London Education Authority, it is part of the "Class of 86" series of exhibitions promoting the work of the London Institute.

Planners reject Nuffield reforms

THE Nuffield report on town and country planning, which recommends major reforms, has been greeted with scepticism by the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Institute president George McDonic said: "The Nuffield call for explicit and systematic statements from central government on major national policy matters is fully justified. But I doubt whether an annual White Paper should be the medium for promoting them."

He also questioned proposals that the environment secretary should only call in planning proposals which affect national policy or disputes between authorities.

"There are other circumstances when a call in is necessary," he said. "For example, where the authority has a vested interest in one out of a number of different proposals."

Leeds backs plan for shop complex at Corn Exchange

LEEDS council has approved plans by Alsop Barnet & Lyall and the John Brunton Partnership to turn the city's historic Grade I-listed Corn Exchange into a shopping centre.

John Lyall, who initiated the scheme to refurbish the Corn

Exchange three years ago, told BD: "We are well aware that the building is listed and no way are we going to vandalise such a masterpiece."

Lyall and his team will now be hard at work until the end of the year drawing up the scheme for planning permission.

"What we want now from everyone, no matter what camp they are in, is enthusiasm for a scheme to find a new use for the Corn Exchange," he said.

Although the Corn Exchange is largely disused and in need of repair, any development of the site will have to be referred to English Heritage for listed building consent.

Local conservation groups are monitoring possible changes to the building.

There is particular concern about a previous scheme by Alsop Barnet & Lyall's developer, Mount Provincial, which gave access to the base-



The harbours of Seville

Emilio Ambasz has won the international limited competition for the 1992 Universal Exhibition in Seville, after dropping his plans for the fair earlier this year. The site is a small island in the Guadalquivir River where the ancient ship Columbus was born. This will be set in the middle of lagoons in which all the temporary exhibition pavilions will be built — a measure that will cut the cost of expensive land-based theme of the exhibition is "Sea of Discovery" and it celebrates the anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. After the exhibition becomes a public park, with part being taken over by the city.

planned in a more sympathetic way.

He had had discussions with English Heritage's planners, many of whom had been involved in the regeneration of Covent Garden in the 1970s, and their advice was "very helpful".

The architectural team also has Patrick Nuttgens as an advisor.

Lyall envisages a Covent Garden-type market for the building. He confirmed that the basement had to be put into use to make the development viable, but said that access was now

Campaign attacks shire plan

A MAJOR government reform to streamline the planning system in the shire counties has been slammed by the Campaign for the Countryside (CPRE).

Environment secretary Nicholas Ridley outlined the proposals to abolish strategic land use planning at the Royal Town Planning Institute's summer school held in Nottingham this month.

CPRE chairman David Astor warned that "removing proper strategic plans would create so much uncertainty that urban-type developments would inevitably spill out haphazardly over the countryside".

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Letters

More control on defects

From John Newlove

I HAVE suggested (in your columns and through published papers) that clerks of works should be empowered to issue instructions to contractors to remove, say within seven days, any work which is not in accordance with the contract.

I cannot imagine any reason why this would be "a dangerous precedent", or why it should be said to presume that the clerk of works is better qualified, presumably in general terms, than other members of the building team, as Holmes states in his letter to you (September 26).

In fact, my suggestion presumes only this:

- That the clerk of works is able to understand the contract requirements from the information provided to him.
- That it is physically possible for him to inspect the work.
- That he is able to make a comparison between the work specified and the work produced, and can form a judgment as to whether the work produced is in accordance with the contract.

JCT 80 is weak in respect of provisions for the control of work which is not in accordance with the contract, and clause 12 needs to be strengthened. Clause 10 also needs attention.

Contract needs are as follows,

detriment of the contractor as well. As a consequence, both architects and contractors may face damaging negligence claims long after the event.

Implementation of my suggestion would bring the situation under control, because the immediate issue of an instruction would draw the attention of the contractor to the fact that he may have a problem.

John Newlove
Halifax

Helping hand withdrawn

From Stephen Mullin

NOW that Roger White has admitted (September 19) that the Georgian Group has been pimping for the scroufier end of the Mickey Mouse trade, those of us who have spent freely of our time and energy in the past on its behalf under the mistaken impression that its primary objective was the preservation

It would not be unreasonable, in these days of educational opportunity, to require the employment of a certificated foreman.

Clause 10 of JCT 80 does not meet these three requirements and is therefore inadequate to some degree. It provides only for a "competent person-in-charge" to be kept constantly up on the works to receive instructions and directions. Large organisations and public bodies might be well advised to take legal advice with a view to supplementing these provisions, particularly where very large or very long-running projects are concerned.

Defects are often left outstanding for far too long, sometimes for months or years, usually to the detriment of the building owner and occasionally to the

Contract needs are as follows,

for buildings of quality will think twice when we are once again asked to "lend a hand".

The masturbatory antics of the "art historians" have not, so far, significantly affected the work of the Ancient Monuments Society and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. And, since both these statutory advisory bodies cover, between them, all the buildings with which the Georgian Group is nominally concerned, I'll be damned if I'll give the group a minute more of my time.

Stephen Mullin
London WC1

Misquoting the Jesuits

From Rachel Scott

"GIVE me a child when he's seven and I'll have him for life" (Scorpio September 19) is not what the Jesuits are said to believe. It is quite the opposite.

As to the "flat orangery facade", your readers may judge

well in advance of Freud,

John Newlove
Halifax

Planning

From Christopher Carter

THE William and Mary Garden at Stoke, as well illustrated in Tony Aldous' article (September 19) was wrongly attributed. It was designed solely by Colvin & Moggridge in the persons of Kate Richards and myself.

Robert Holden obviously didn't like it, but then he seems never to like anything by any of his fellow-professionals, and appears to lack Cedric Price's capacity for good-humoured enjoyment.

As to the "flat orangery

façade", your readers may judge

well in advance of Freud,

Christopher Carter
Lechide
Glos

Pretentious review

From John Lambie

FURTHER to John McKee's extremely pretentious review of the work of students at NCL (September 19), tutored by friends of his... "What a lot of old Pollocks."

John Lambie
London N16

Planning

From Glyn Banks

UNDER the heading "Young blood flows out" Scorpio (August 1) asked what is happening down at Kingston Polytechnic

"Under the guise of staff 'cuts' the school of architecture seems to be undergoing a subtle change of tack, orchestrated by an inner cabal of full-timers."

I think it is time for both architects and insurers to consider the possible long-term effects of this situation and to take a more realistic view of present actions.

Low fee-bidding, mentioned by W Evans as something that may be taken into account in assessing premiums ("The cost of cover" September 19) is only one of many factors that may affect the insurance risk. I have had some experience of contract administration, claims and investigative work, so here is my selection of three other factors which, in my opinion, are not only common but most hazardous:

● Use of the JCT 63 and JCT 80 Forms of Contract which impose unnecessarily complex and rigid administrative arrangements upon architects.

These create hazards peculiar to their use and they increase the architect's costs without compensation from additional fees.

● The misuse of technicians to administer contracts on-site and the general use of technicians without qualified supervision in circumstances where such supervision is necessary.

● A failure to have drawings checked before they are used.

To encourage architects to reduce these risks to the advantage of themselves and their insurers, it might be an idea to offer reductions of premiums in the following circumstances:

● where all partners in a practice are professionally qualified as architects, engineers or surveyors;

● where all design and detailing is under the direct control of a qualified architect;

● where only qualified architects are permitted to administer building contracts on-site;

● where all drawings are signed as checked by a qualified architect before being issued for use by other consultants or contractors;

● where practices undertake not to use the JCT 63 or JCT 80 forms of contract.

Acceptance of this idea of giving discounts for safer working practices would allow architects to make rational choices in the matter of indemnity insurance.

Evens wrote that he would be interested in the comments of insurers. So would I.

Glyn Banks
London N16

Unattainable standards?

From John Newlove

THE problems of professional indemnity insurance seem to be getting out of hand. There is pressure on architects to reduce the sterile way in which buildings and landscape were often designed and said that better ecological concern was needed

to give more variety in urban development. But these standards would assess environmental impact through design, traffic generation, noise and pollution.

In sensitive design worried

Jonathon Porritt, director of Friends of the Earth, who

urged a green approach to development. He condemned the sterile way in which buildings and landscape were often

designed and said that better

ecological concern was needed

to give more variety in urban

development. But these stand-

ards would assess environmental impact through design, traffic generation, noise and pollution.

Would he extend his condem-

nation, I wonder, to the deep-

mined storage caverns for pro-

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Lincolnshire coast? And would he prefer to see such storage on

the surface as in the past?

and abroad.

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Moving image
Alan Phillips

Faith and favour

ONE of the marvellous things about America — at least in some of the states — is the absence of planning regulations. Walking across 260 acres of Mississippi farmland, including some beautifully fragile landscape, my client was horrified at the suggestion that some other authority might control and influence her right to build or, God forbid, how the building might look. The land belonged to her, and she could build where she liked and how she liked. It was a strange and new feeling to come away from our first meeting with no more between me and my architecture than imagination. No application forms, conferences, negotiations or compromises. Just an act of faith by the people of the state, that the architect is the most capable person to make architecture.

And there are no qualms about building in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Everything needs to be measured against its opposite, and there



can be no better challenge to the man-made than the magnificent excesses of our "natural" world. When our architects at home are relegated to railway sidings, disused car parks or polluted inner-city infill sites as potential places for great architecture, it is perhaps no wonder that more and more are clinging to the eclectic petticoats of history.

Witness the fabulous train journey from Paddington to the West Country and it is almost too obvious how the architecture improves (with and without architects) as you move from the cities to the countryside between. Moreover, it is somehow expected that a great house, folly or chimney will characterise a rolling landscape, or that a cliff will be marked with staircase or hotel.

Imagine the Lot Valley in the Dordogne without its buildings, or the gardens at Stourhead without the temples and grottos.

Layers and lace

EDINBURGH is one of the most three-dimensional cities in the world. It is also a city for walking which promotes a greater appreciation of its qualities. The site, of course, helped. Yet the almost mystical response to the valleys and vales challenges the overtly rational

base of contemporary urban design theory.

It is a city of edges, layers and surreal juxtaposition. In the Old Town especially, one is continuously aware of being on a bridge, above a road, above another bridge — or on a pavement that suddenly rises above ground to then plunge down yet another monumental staircase to meet a moat or a market. One of the most enjoyable experiences is to walk backwards up the Royal Mile towards the castle. Being conscious that you are in the centre of a capital city, it is almost abstract to watch the encircling over the roof of the palace, inverting the spatial layering and setting a watery canvas behind the tunnel of historical buildings. Or walk in the opposite direction, past the palace, with your eyes closed. After only three minutes, and without looking back, it would be easy to pretend that the city does not exist; climbing Arthur's Seat, it is almost as if the great Rock is a landscaped metaphor for the town itself. Lakes sit above lakes, which sit above the sea — paths lace together dips and rises — and the outcrops of granite bear reference to the Great Mediaeval Edge by the Royal Mile which cascades into the valley and complements the peopled line of Princes Street.

The New and Old Towns work together simply because they do not try to imitate each other. There is no compromise, and nor should there be in future interventions. But I am suspicious that the City Fathers will yet again dissolve the passions of the young architects under the specious blackmail of context. Context should never be seen as some kind of levelling device. It is a challenge, and an opportunity for counterpoint and juxtaposition. Imitation is not the highest form of compliment, it is the lowest form of insult. And the sort of pastiche creeping into the heart of Edinburgh will surely destroy a city whose very brilliance depends upon a history of courage and commitment to the "Architecture of an Age".

Square Trafalgar

BACK to London and it becomes impossible to pass through Trafalgar Square without comment. Here is a great site in a famous urban landscape. How can it be therefore, given that all the other buildings were expressing with degrees of success the spirit of their age, that a facsimile of a parody of a pastiche of a "classical" prototype could in any way be seen as mirroring the cultural ambitions of a nation that trembles 14 years from the 21st century?

More alarmingly if we are to understand the decision of the jury at Grand Buildings as some sort of barometer as to architecture's current predilections, it might be better to form an "Architects for Export" club, and lobby people like President Mitterrand. His belief in contemporary design, proven by Philippe Starck's commissions for the president's private rooms, shames Thatcher who, given a perfect opportunity to support architecture, abdicates her duty as a cultural patron in favour of a Barratt's Special in Dulwich.

Conference special

THE trouble with party conferences, especially of the pre-election variety, is that the delegates feel compelled to air their views on weighty matters of state, which generally only goes to show that however slow-witted their leaders, they are streets ahead of the rank and file. This is good for a laugh, of course, and reminds us of the dictum that farce is the tragedy that happens to outsiders, tragedy the farce that happens to you. I think of this every time the Liberal Assembly meets. It is rare for delegates to discuss something they know about, and which might be popular with the electorate. Instead they pontificate about defence, economics etc. But why not discuss easy vote winners? And come to that, why not put cheap and popular policies in election manifestos — for example the outlawing of compulsory service charges in restaurants, the provision of enough rubbish bins on our streets, or the elimination of VAT on theatre and cinema tickets?

The notion of dreaming up popular if

relatively unimportant policies has been explored in the past; when Joe Haines was a leading light in the Labour Party he once drew up such a list. Unfortunately for him, it included giving council tenants the right to buy their homes, which rubbed Labour's Mr Bubbles up the wrong way and resulted in his package of measures being dropped from the manifesto. Haines was cleverer than the Labour local authority bigwigs, and the Tories cashed in on his ideas about council housing to good effect in 1979. Tories never have ideas of their own but they can spot (and steal) good ones; Labour has plenty, but always distrusts their originators — more tragedy and farce.

It was a pleasant surprise, therefore, to read the recent SDP policy for the arts, which contains some good ideas, both cheap and practical. The one of most direct interest to architects is the proposal to make clients pay 1 per cent of the cost of the building towards art to be incorporated in it. The details of the

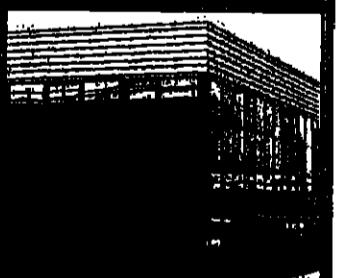
The Editor's Comment



policy are fuzzy, as the party refreshingly admits. But the notion is a good one, though there are some reservations. The principal of these is that "compulsory art" will result in the widespread commissioning of not-very-good art, on the more means worse principle. This is probably a risk worth taking since average art is infinitely better than none at all. This policy is scarcely likely to be a big vote-winner, but as a good idea it is now up for grabs. The Art & Architecture Group should be toasting Dr Owen, who should now get someone to write him a paper on the desirability of landscaping.



Young designers' competition for cultural building renewal. The brief required entries from students and recent graduates in planning, architecture, interior design and construction. And from those installing maintenance.



Prize money amounted to £10,000. The competition was open to students and recent graduates from planning, architecture, interior design and construction courses, and to those installing maintenance.

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Perspective



Port holes and trellises — Woods' signatures.



A block of paint and good as new, 11 Park Road.

Happy families

BRENDAN Woods was one person everyone wanted to talk to on the evening when 11 Park Road, north London, was declared open.

Woods, of Solon Cooperative Design Group, was the architect responsible for the conversion into four flats. He had become quite a friend of the Shrine Housing Cooperative and something of a hero for making the dreams of so many come true.

Shrine was set up in 1982 as a democratic Afro-Carib co-operative to buy, lease, convert or improve properties and build new ones. This house was bought in April 1984 and various members of the co-operative lived there on short-life tenancies until the conversion began in May 85. The £75,000 project was funded by Brent council.

Architecturally the house is not especially complex, although the division into four one-bedroom units produces some difficult orientation. A first-floor maisonette leads down into the rear extension.

Throughout the 12-month contract the architects and co-op members met on the first Monday of each month to thrash out what everybody wanted and what was feasible. The close co-operation between designer and end-users meant the residents could be involved in the choice of their own colour schemes — some of which are highly individual — laminates, ironmongery and kitchen units.

For Aleix de Rijke, Woods' assistant, this was one of the most positive aspects of the project: "It's so much more fun to work this way. If things start to get over budget, you can just get together and make sure no one gets too disillusioned."

Each flat is based on an octagonal shape; in some it takes



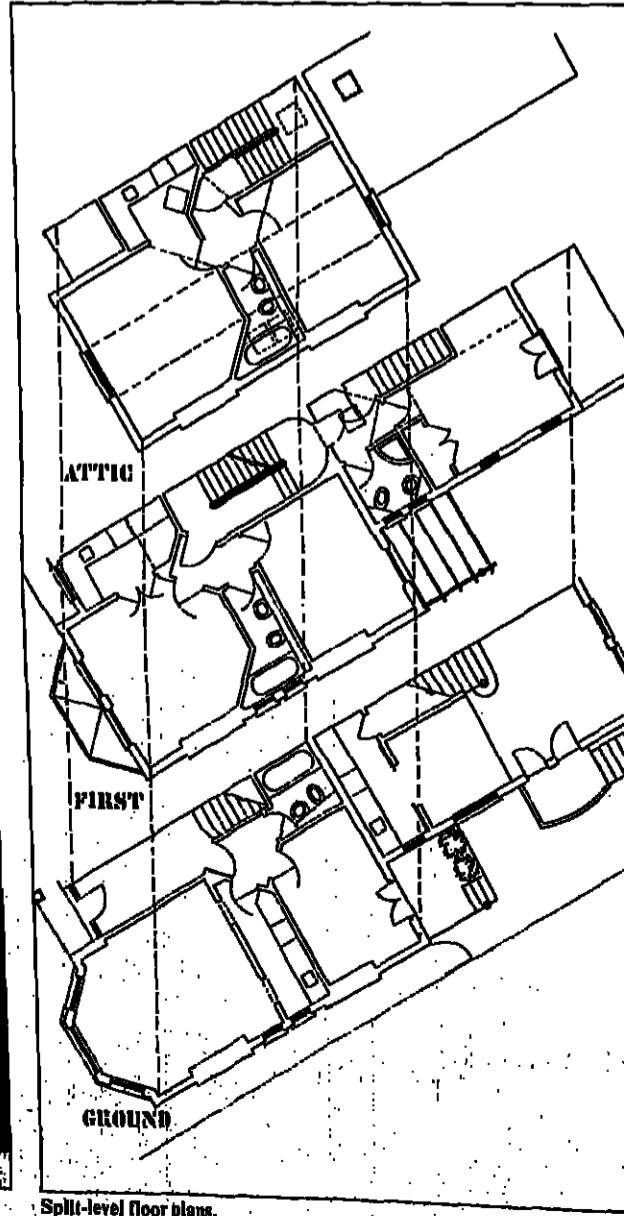
The baptises from the top-floor flat. (Photo: Geoff Beecroft)

the form of an entire room, in others it is the reception room with the kitchen partitioned off. The building bears the hallmarks of Woods' style, the addition of port-hole windows at each level and terraces and balconies marked by grey trellises. The four units are clearly defined and the choice of decoration undertaken with each occupant. And for the

residents the pride in what they had helped achieve is apparent.

Fiona G.

Client: Shrine Housing Coop
Architect: Brendan Woods,
Cooperative Design Group
Contractor: Ben Bhada &
Construction Co.
Structural engineer: Sam Jamel &
Associates
Interior: Stuart Cope of SCA
Sons



Split-level floor plans.



The ground-floor flat and maisonette; each have a terrace.

Scorpio

Bank of England plans up in smoke

REVISED to alter the Bank of England's interior may have to be rethought again after the mysterious fire last week.

Only a month or so ago, that conservation watchdog the London Advisory Committee rejected an application by the bank for alterations to two of its major rooms so that its museum could be enlarged.

Commissioners took a very dim view of the plans, which included inserting a mezzanine floor into the Round and "Soane Hall", which although altered by Sir Herbert Baker is still considered one of the bank's architectural glories.

Architects are being set a structural design problem (judges include Bob Smart and engineer Tony Hunt), involving a Jan Kaplicky-type scenario incorporating a cube and a brick. I dare not say more.

One idea outlawed by the

organisers involved a team of dwarfs pulling energy supreme Peter Walker along on the back of an elephant. Apparently the fate of the elephant was thought excessive.

Go back to the drawing board, advised the committee. The bank duly obeyed and fresh plans, we hear, are now on their way to English Heritage.

But now the bank could have to start all over again. The fire, which started in one of six wooden huts belonging to contractors Higgs & Hill, was directly above the Soane Hall.

Luckily the flames swept up, not down, but fire damage could mean that the bank has more on its hands than simply enlarging a

museum.

Apparently Sandhu has ideas about converting a teashop in St Katharine's Dock into a restaurant. What type? Who knows, but in a clear reference to the office tower, the restaurant's likely name: The Indian Rope Trick.

Settling in nicely

THERE is no truth in the scurrilous rumour circulating at the RIBA that David Pearce resigned only days after accepting the editorship of *The Architect*. None whatsoever, says Pearce, who admits in the same breath that "things weren't easy after Jonathan left".

But we're happy to report that Pearce is now firmly in control, "giving more emphasis to the affairs of the RIBA", and "what it's really like to be an architect".

Meanwhile, the man-who-could-have-been-editor, father-to-be Stephen Trombley, has been reduced to writing about the dietary habits of dogs for the *Mall on Sunday's* magazine. "Why shouldn't dogs be vegetarians?" he asks me provocatively, as we work our way through venison pâté and steak tartare.

Look and learn

FUN and games are in store at the Building 86 exhibition which opens at midday on Sunday (October 8) at Earls Court. Forget about dull product shows of the past — instead we have an exhibition produced like a magazine (courtesy of Bob Smart at BDP), with themes, headlines, features etc.

The fun will take place in a space at the end of the exhibition area, where imaginers including ex-BD editor Sutherland Lyall have devised competitions to test the wits of design professionals.

"Among these are a variation on: 'The price is right' for quantity surveyors, who will have to identify the correct prices of building products (not their value). It won't be quite as simple as it sounds, because trick questions will include the price of items 50 years ago."

TRYING to get your wife to give up smoking? John Seifert has the answer. He bought Mrs S a valuable ring — provided she gave up the weed. If she reverts? He takes the ring away and gives it to her sister!

● PROPERTY people are, as we all know, dynamic, efficient, up-to-the-minute etc. Do they know something about Sir Philip and Hidalgo that has escaped the rest of us? The Cambridge University Land Society has arranged a tour round the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, which they say has been designed by Pearl Moyer & Partners.

● A CURIOUS story in the *Asian Wall Street Journal* describes a lavatory unit developed for Japanese Railways which contains magnetic timing devices buried in the door. These set off a 1.5 gallon flush if the user stays inside the stall two minutes or less, while a three-gallon flush is activated if the user has stayed more than two minutes. You just have to hope you don't get locked in.

10 years ago

TOO many buildings are being listed, says Lady Birk, a junior DoE minister. She told a conference at Oxford that many marginal buildings, particularly from the late 19th century, were being included. Soon fewer would be given the benefit of the doubt. Listing was setting down the marker, she said. It did not mean those selected would be preserved for all time.

Building Design, October 1, 1976.

Statistics



One Way to Outlast the Opposition

Today, the designer of the Leaning Tower of Pisa would probably end up in prison rather than in the history books. And all for the sake of a breakdown in communications between architect and engineer.

Thankfully today, technology is available to prevent this happening, whilst simultaneously saving time and increasing profitability. It's a CAD system called GDS.

GDS builds the links between different disciplines — assisting in the preparation of drawings with its new 3-D modelling and comprehensive draughting capabilities. GDS drawings then become the template for other members of the design team, and, form the database for maintenance engineers and facility managers.

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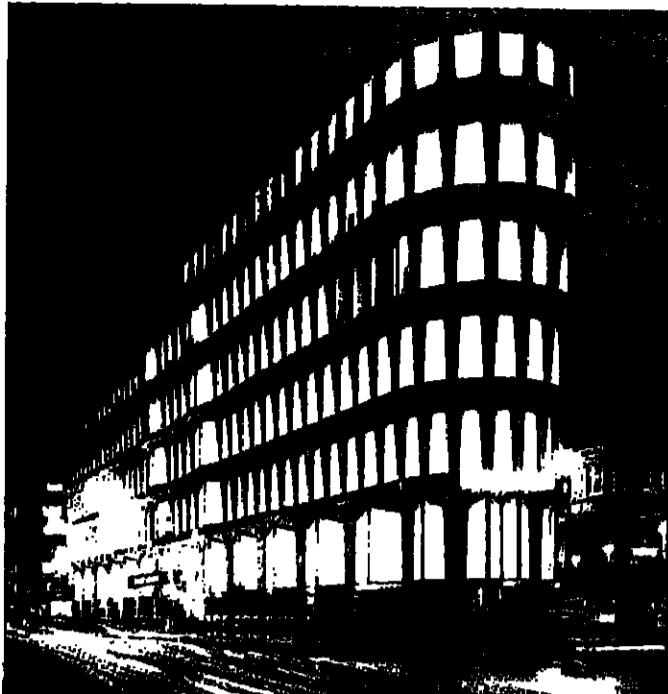
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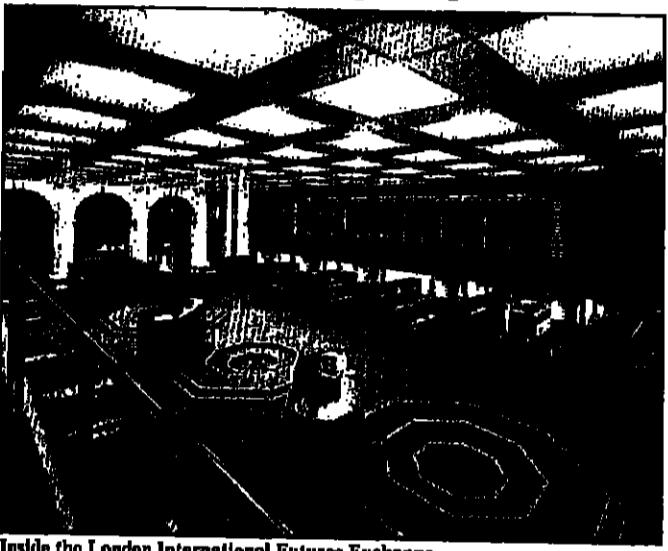
McDonnell Douglas Information Systems Limited, Melton House, Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey GU227QH. Tel: 0486226761

Taking care of business

The Whinney Mackay-Lewis Partnership celebrated its centenary in 1984. Now it's going for USM listing. Lynda Ralph-Knight reports.



The innovative Credit Lyonnais Bank, its grec cladding still unstained



Inside the London International Futures Exchange.

THE Whinney Mackay-Lewis Partnership is set to become a household name after comparative obscurity outside the City of London. Apart from the Credit Lyonnais Bank, which hit the headlines in the 1970s as the first British building to use grec cladding, the practice's work has largely gone unnoticed by the media.

Yet that work has developed steadily over the last 100 years and is now frequently in the multi-million pound bracket. While other practices have suffered the severe blows of the recession, Whinney Mackay-Lewis has not only survived the storm but is prospering.

The key to that success lies very much with the practice's speciality, for since its conception in 1884 as Whinney, Son & Austin Hall it has concentrated on financial buildings.

Brought about by a touch of nepotism when accountant Sir Arthur Whinney introduced his architect cousin T.B. Whinney to Midland Bank chief Sir Edward Holden, the workload has traditionally included banks, notably the Midland for its City-based "wholesale" outlets, as well as the high street "retail" branches. More recently some 70 foreign banks have been added to the client list, along with City guilds such as the Fishmongers and Clothworkers, and organisations such as

the London International Financial Futures Exchange.

"Nothing has changed over the century," Mackay-Lewis says of the practice in his usual slogan style. "Quality remains the keynote."

The concentration on financial buildings also accounts for the anonymity that shrouds Whinney Mackay-Lewis. "We are fluent in every style of architecture," boasts Mackay-Lewis. "You cannot recognise our work as we are not using the client as an end. Each institution wants its own image."

Certainly, that claim is born out if you consider the eccentric Credit Lyonnais scheme alongside its recently-revamped neighbour. The practice has upgraded the latter, a spec-built office block, using banded silver aluminium cladding. No one would guess that the same architect had a hand in the adjacent schemes.

The general approach, according to Mackay-Lewis, is to design the building from the inside out. This is important because of the special requirements of the financial fraternity and because their buildings are often public environments as well as security strongholds. "We design the whole building," he adds. The practice is multidisciplinary with its own interior design department as well as in-house services engineers. Clients are offered a maintenance programme.

Design has clearly had its moments, notably through past links with architects of the calibre of the original partner Austin Hall and Lutyens, with whom the practice collaborated on Midland bank schemes in the 20s and 30s. Prouvé, France's late great master, was called to advise on the cladding for Credit Lyonnais, while interior design links were long established with artist and craft designer Algy Asprey. But on the whole the buildings are safely competent, oozing with quality, but without sparkle.

What is impressive, not to say daunting, is the way the practice is run, for here the partners have clearly got the measure of their clients. "As an architect, I have designed the organisation instead of a building," says Mackay-Lewis with total justification. And the results are formidable.

Balancing professional with commercial enterprise, the organisation falls into two parts: the partnership with its four partners, and the company. Mackay-Lewis is senior partner of the practice and managing director of the company. He explains that all transactions are handled by the partnership, which acts as an interface between the client and the company. If a job is accepted, it is then delegated to the company for design and management. The arrangement "enables me

to manage," says Mackay-Lewis. "We are in theory trustees," he adds, speaking of the partners. "Unless you have superb financial control, the organisation won't be profitable."

Nor does the system end with the titles. A regular sequence of meetings and reviews is used to monitor the practice's progress. Every quarter, for example, there is a compulsory day-long staff meeting to discuss the work in hand and the business of the practice, while clients receive a monthly "statement" on the progress of their contract.

For all that, Mackay-Lewis claims to give considerable autonomy to the professionals on his team, encouraging them to see a lot of their clients and sell their shoes on site. The designers tend to work in teams of around half a dozen and he himself remains a designer, though working more at the conceptual stage of a project.

Whatever one's view of the resulting architecture, it is hard to dispute Whinney Mackay-Lewis' standing. Jeremy Mackay-Lewis is well poised to comment on the changing demands of financial clients and his observations offer some surprises. Traditionally more conservative than other commercial organisations, the bankers are now, he says, turning more to competition as a means of selecting their designers. Gone are the days of the retained

architect, and his designers often find themselves up against the likes of GMW, Fitzrobinson, Thomas Sanderson, Arup Associates, when trying for a job — even for the Midland Bank!

Meanwhile, the briefs have changed to accommodate the changing face of banking. "They have changed from being cash strongholds to being cashless," says Mackay-Lewis of the "wholesale" buildings. The vaults are therefore becoming redundant as security storage and practices such as his have been brought in to re-plan the spaces. A recent example is Whinney Mackay-Lewis' Banque Paribas in London Lombard Street, where the vaults have been gutted to form an atrium under an artificially lit canopy.

By the same token, rods are

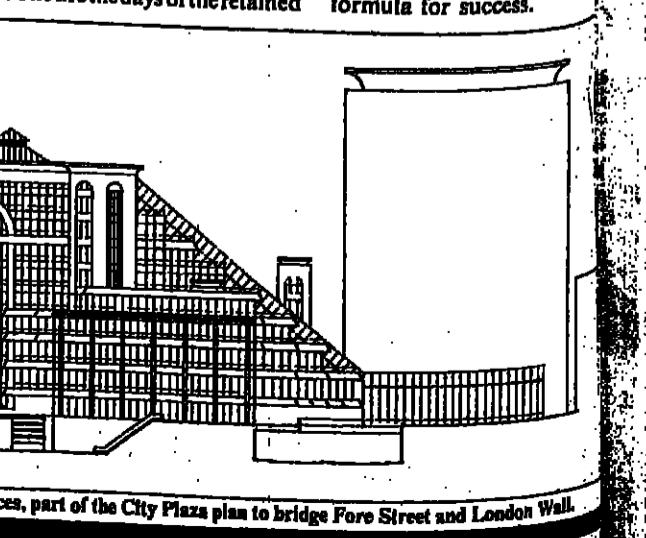
becoming more important,

he says, as the use of telecommunications increases in the financial world. There is an awful lot of hardware to accommodate there.

"The building concept has been turned upside down," concludes.

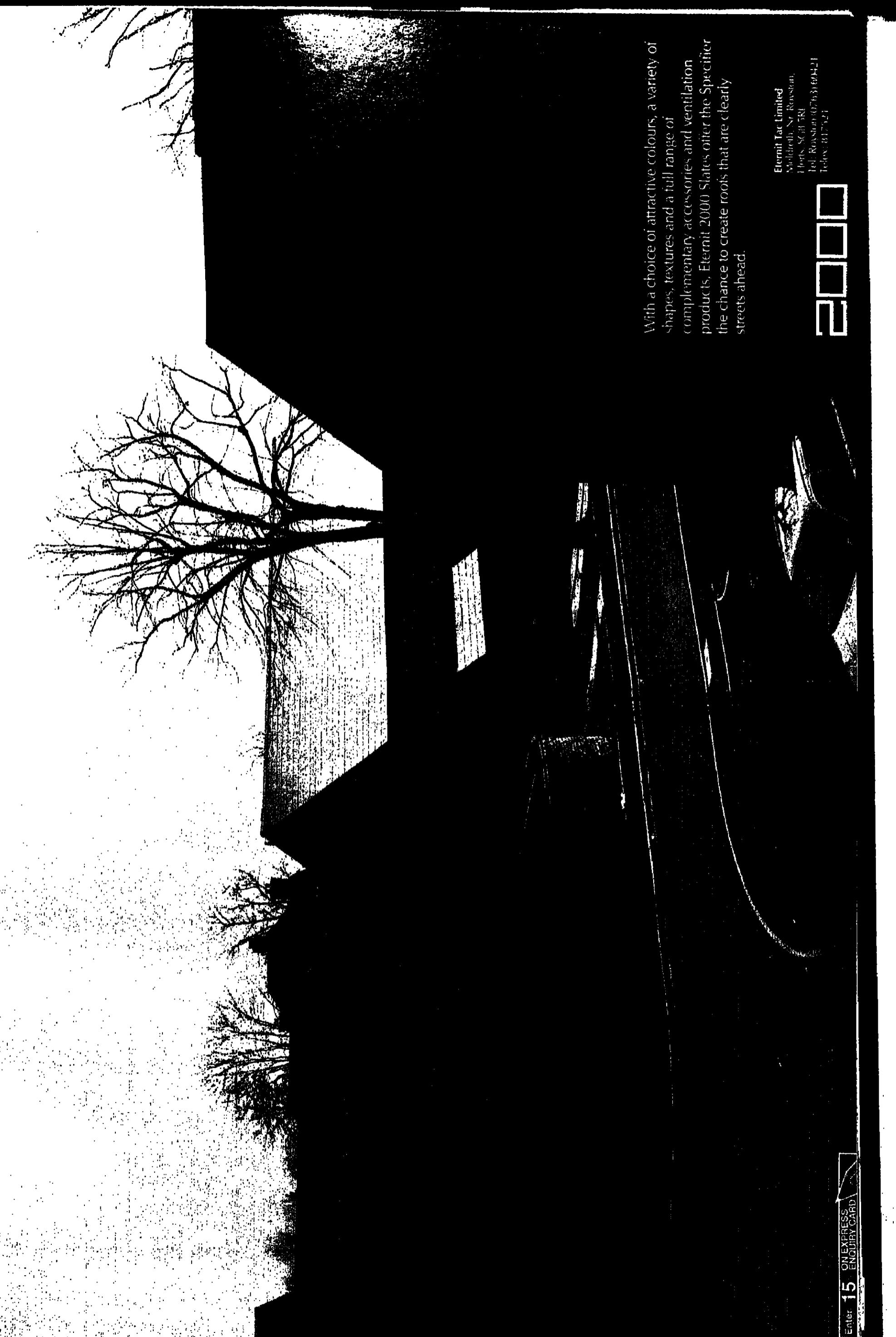
He sees his practice covering new ground, expanding particularly into interior design of hotels and conference centres.

Certainly, it is his belief that by centering designs on the requirements of each client, the practice will continue with a formula for success.



"Aztec-shaped" design for new City offices, part of the City Plaza plan to bridge Fenchurch Street and London Wall.

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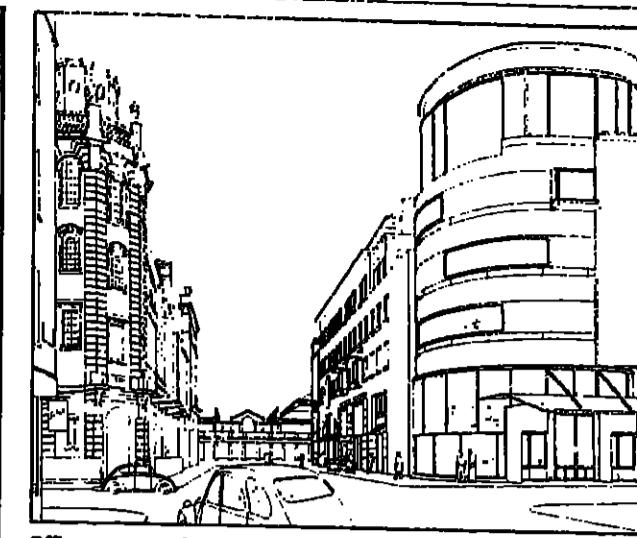
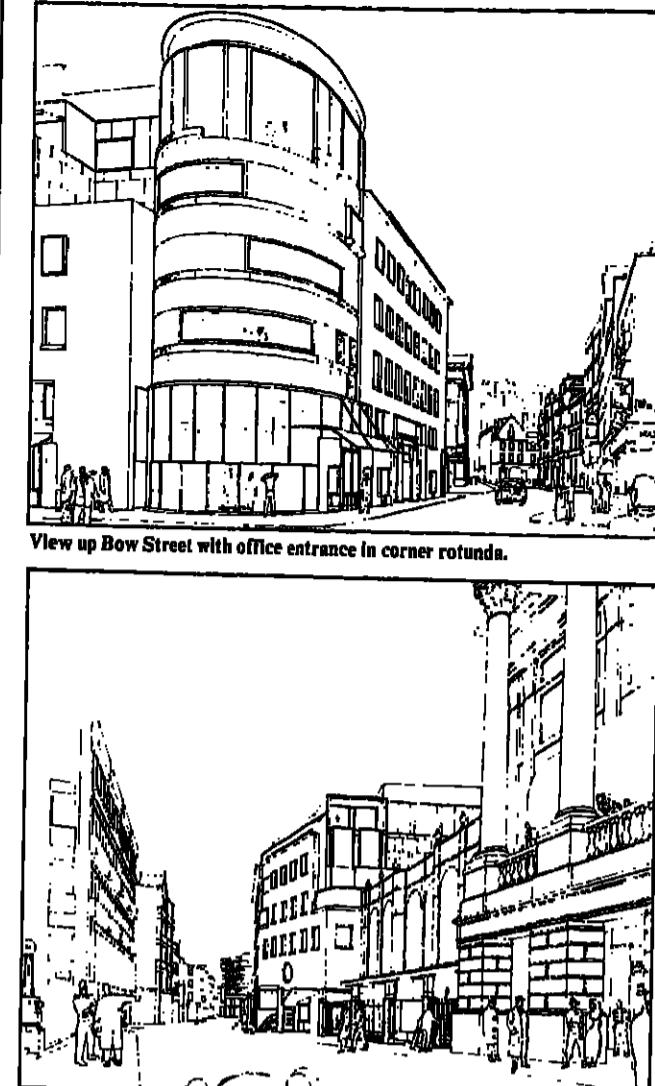
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Jeff Phipps



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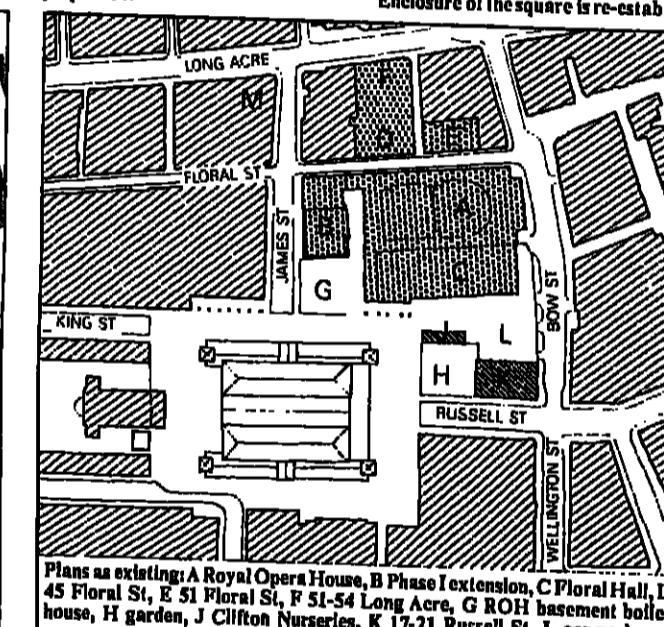
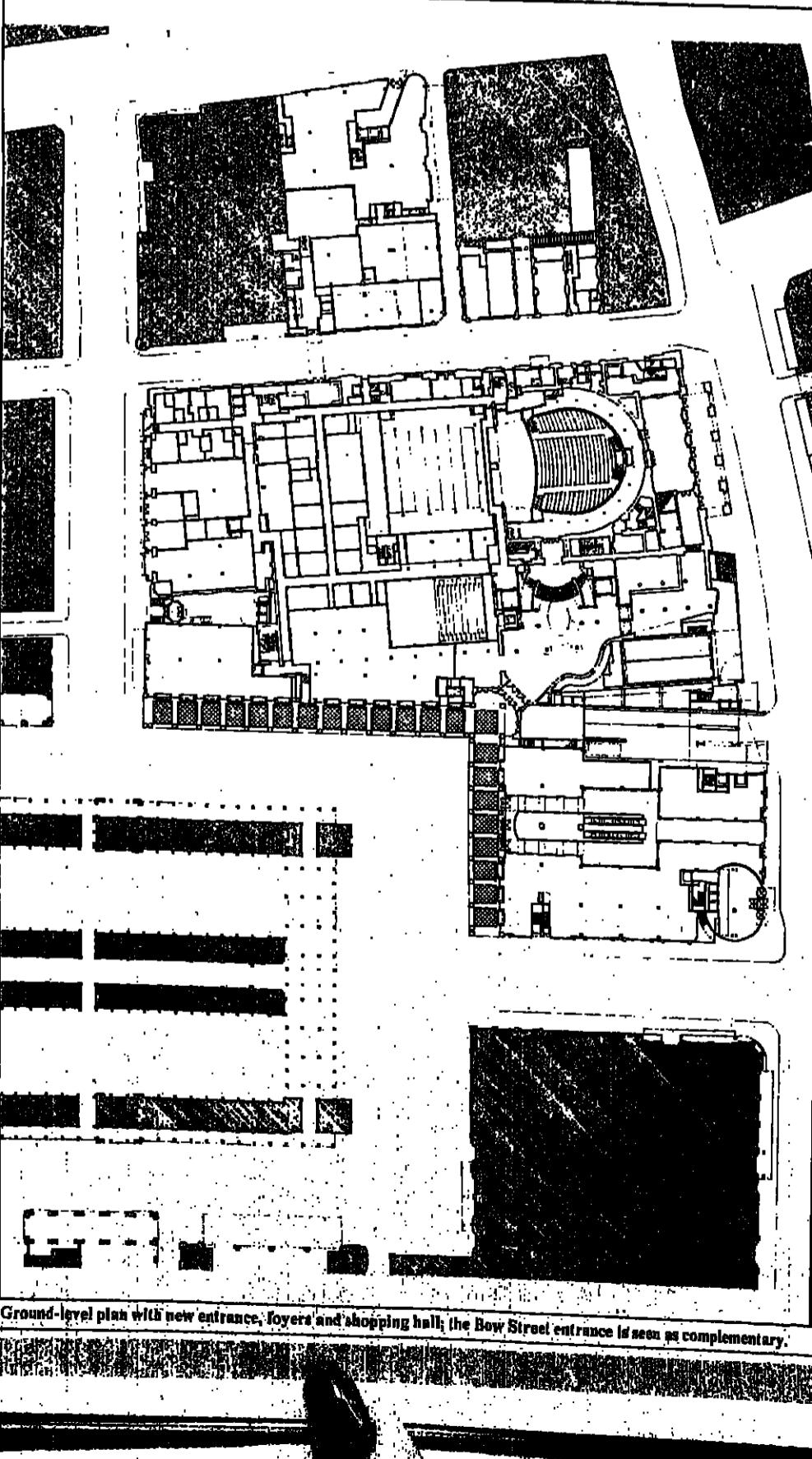
The arcades are double-height, barrel-vaulted spaces.

Bow Street offices, Floral Hall and Barry's portico.

Enclosure of the square is re-established with the arcade, which unifies the commercial parts of the scheme. The new Opera House entrance is in the corner.

Russell Street shops with end of the arcade building.

Continuous shopping frontage is provided onto the square.



Plans as existing: A Royal Opera House, B Phase I extension, C Floral Hall, D house, E garden, F St 54 Long Acre, G ROH basement boiler access, H car park and M Covent Garden Underground.

THE wisdom of the decision in June 1984 to commission Jeremy Dixon/BDP against eminent opposition to re-develop the Royal Opera House site in Covent Garden is confirmed by the qualities of the proposals put in for planning permission today.

The £55 million budget covers the cost of essential updating to the Opera's technical facilities, including a new fly-tower, stage and side stages, bringing the backstage areas more into line with other premier opera houses. Adjustment of the proscenium arch will improve sight lines, and

air-conditioning, supplied and extracted from systems carefully integrated within the ceiling decoration, will improve audience comfort.

Accommodation and support areas for the Royal Opera Company, the Orchestra and the Royal Ballet (which will move back from its west London premises) are housed around and above the stages as well as in new buildings

across Floral Street, linked by open loggia directly accessible from the amphitheatre foyer at bridges which allow easier access to the top of the new double spiral stair.

A new entrance, complementary to the existing Bow Street entrance, is formed off the corner, Garden square are thus re-establishing the important relationship of the opera with the lively activity in the square.

Stylistically Dixon's scheme is sympathetic to such a sensitive setting, but the character of the various new components changes in response to the different contexts and contents. Hence the striking *moderne* corner rotunda of the office building entrance contrasts with the more restrained, subservient elevations of the same block. The scheme is diagrammatically logical and as simple as the programme allows, but the edges — particularly at lower levels and where pedes-

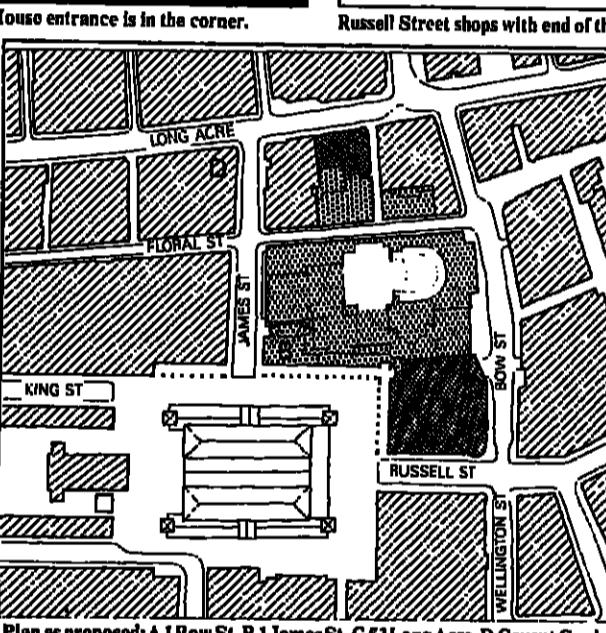
trians pass — are consciously more eventful.

The scheme should start on site in 1988; the Opera will provisionally close in 1991 and reopen two years later when building work is complete.

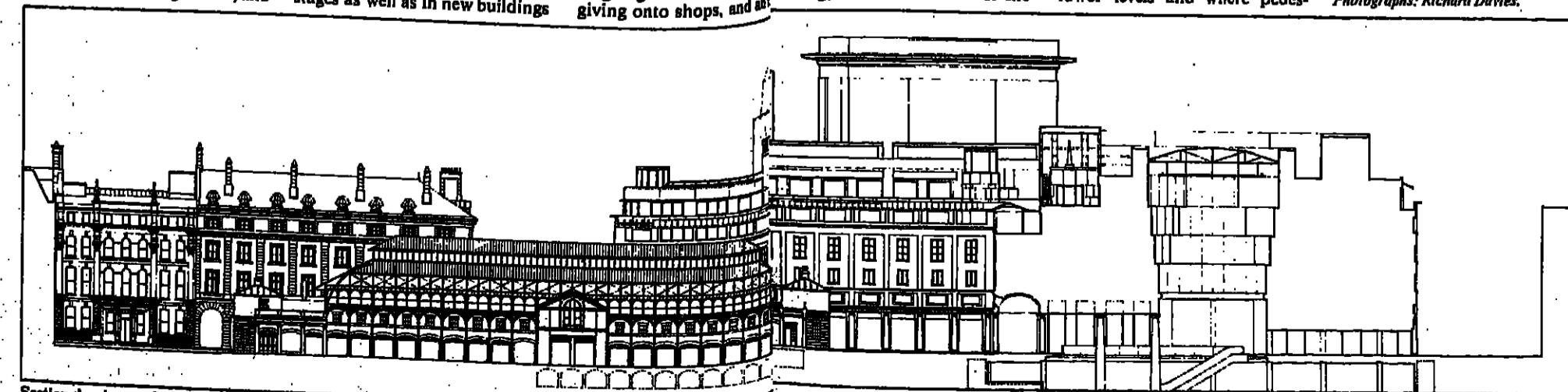
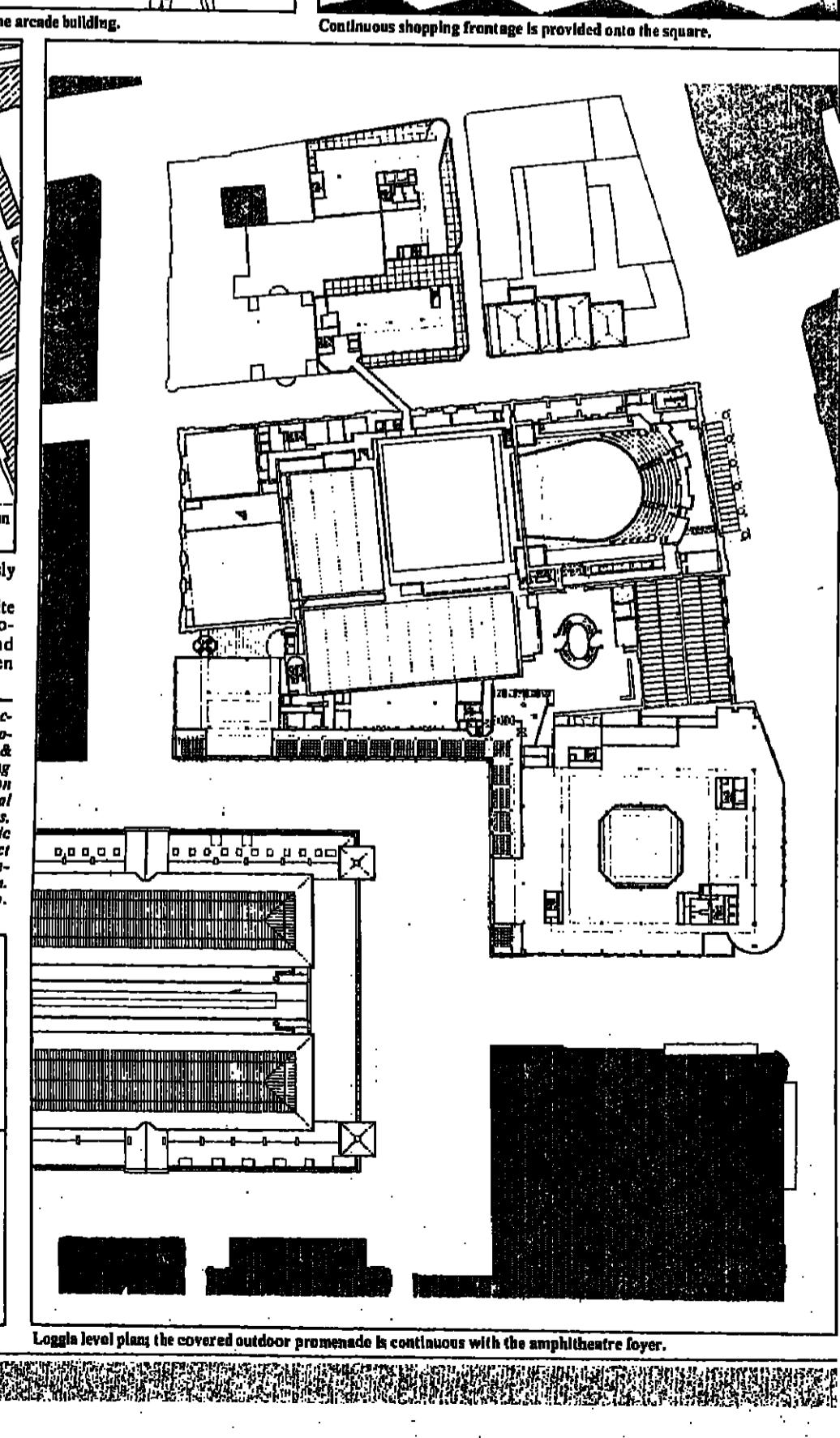
Architects: Jeremy Dixon/BDP. **Structural engineers:** Alan Baxter & Associates. **Quantity surveyors:** Gardiner & Theobald. **Services Engineers:** Building Design Partnership. **Construction advisers:** Higgs & Hill. **Technical coordinator:** John Wyckham Assoc. **Acoustics:** Artec Consultants. **Public safety/Fire Check Consultants:** Project Management Services. **Planning:** Carl Laubin. **Models:** Thurloe Models Group. **Photographs:** Richard Davies.



Axonometric of the new public and foyers.



Plan as proposed: A Bow St, B James St, C Long Acre, D Covent Garden Underground Station (ROH dotted, commercial sites hatched).



Section showing south elevation, the market shopping mall and the linking pedestrian shopping hall within the office block.

Jeremy on ● BDP

New Products

Compiled by Harold Hudson

New show looks set for success

RESPONSE to Building 86, the new building industry exhibition which will take place at Earls Court from October 5-9, has been excellent. All sites in the eight theme areas have been snapped up long ago and bookings have spilled over into peripheral areas.

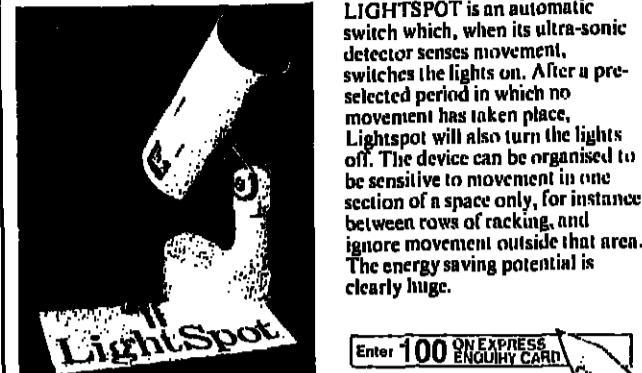
Building 86 departs from the traditional building exhibition in several ways. The chief take-off point being the show's emphasis on themes of current interest. Some of the event titles announced include "The Great Wooden Spoon Race", an event which takes place on most days. "What price was that?", a lunchtime panel game, and "RIBA Young Lions Presentation".

Certainly Building 86 should prove an interesting way to spend a day and the organisers are to be congratulated on trying to breathe new life into a traditional building exhibition.

Harold Hudson

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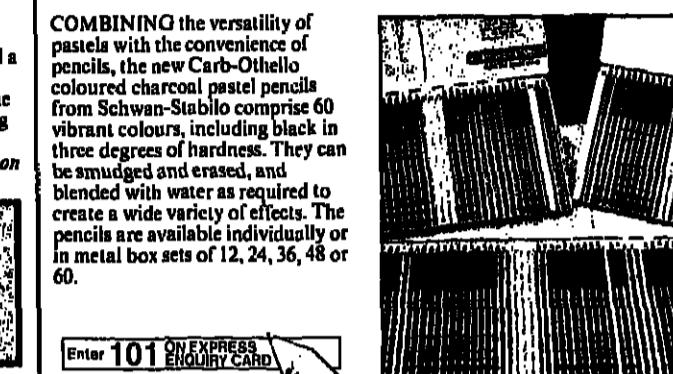
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COMBINING the versatility of pencils with the convenience of pencils, the new Carb-Otello coloured charcoal pencil pencils from Schwan-Stabilo comprise 60 vibrant colours, including black in three degrees of hardness. They can be smudged and erased, and blended with water as required to create a wide variety of effects. The pencils are available individually or in metal box sets of 12, 24, 36, 48 or 60.

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ACCESS CONTROL

APPLICATION to maximum security areas, Newmark Technology's new Controlpoint access system consists of a microprocessor-based controller which is remotely addressed via an entrypoint sensor unit by any number of hand-held commanders. By means of an infra-red transmission, a coded dialogue occurs between the controller and commander.

First a "wake-up" code is transmitted to the controller. If it is valid for the entry point, a controller code is transmitted back to the commander. After a follow-

Waterslide

WHERE space around the swimming pool is limited, it might be possible to slot in the new Davenport Leisure waterslide. Designed in consultation with a number of swimming pool managers, the new slide needs a space of only 1.8m x 2.5m and can be quickly installed without having to close down the pool. It can be manufactured to left- or right-hand conformation and can be easily relocated to another site.

Enter 107 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

Two ridges

ASPECT Roofing has announced the introduction of two new ridge tiles — the Gas Flue Ridge Terminal and a Ventilating Ridge Tile. The former has low flow resistance, as required by the British Gas Corporation, and has been designed to interfere as little as possible with the smooth ridge line. It complies fully with BS 5440: Part 1: 1987 for appliances with a rated input of not more than 60kW. This terminal and the ventilating ridge are both available in a full range of colours.

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Luminaires

PRODUCED in three sizes to take 16, 28 and 38W 2D energy-saving lamps, Moorlite's new Chianti range of circular luminaires are designed to give either recessed or surface-mounted options. There is also a square form luminaire, also with the two mounting options, as well as a choice of louvre or prismatic diffusers. Self-contained emergency versions are available in the 16 and 28W circular fittings.

Enter 103 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD



Gas effect fire

AVAILABLE in three sizes to take 16, 28 and 38W 2D energy-saving lamps, Moorlite's new Chianti range of circular luminaires are designed to give either recessed or surface-mounted options. There is also a square form luminaire, also with the two mounting options, as well as a choice of louvre or prismatic diffusers. Self-contained emergency versions are available in the 16 and 28W circular fittings.

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Ventilating ridge

WHETHER the surface is concrete, granolithic, blockwork, brickwork, masonry, GRAB's new surface treatment — Stopdust — will penetrate the material and stop chalking. It will also seal the surface and make it waterproof and resistant to attack by salts and oil. Stopdust is applied by an applicator or soft sweeping brush and, given dry conditions, a floor so treated will be ready for use the following day.

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Playgrounds

Enter 104 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

ACTION Packs is the name of a new collection of children's play equipment from SMiP Playgrounds. In all there are 15 Action Packs which can produce almost any configuration of play features, including split-level towers of five different heights, linking bridges, ladders, cat walks, crawler tunnels and trapezes. These can also incorporate slides, swings, log cabins, roll-over bars and firemen's poles. Freedom of choice is the main facility.

Enter 105 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD



Insulated gutters

MUSTANO Metal Products has introduced a new range of insulated industrial valley gutters. Their top and bottom skins are of aluminium, while their core is of high-density insulation or various types depending on the insulation factor required. These gutters have high flow capacity, with no inner components, overlap or staggered joints to introduce cold spots. The specification of insulated gutters is becoming more frequent, in order to reduce condensation risk and improve overall thermal insulation.

Enter 111 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

Road gully

TOTAL design flexibility is claimed by Chipman for its Designer Logs modular play structures. The secret is that the structures are built up from a series of 150mm diameter Douglas fir, non-splitting logs, from which can be assembled swings, slides, ladders, platforms, bridges, ramps and many more play structures. The system is backed by a Design Pack which allows the customer to establish the range of options on offer and determine the best solution for his purposes.

Enter 112 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

Play equipment

IDEAL for use on estates and in parks, the new Osmadrain road gully has been introduced by Westbrick Building Products to its range of underground drainage products. Available in trapped and non-trapped forms, the new gully is quick and easy to fit with push-fit joints to a 100mm diameter Osmadrain system. The gully can also be used with traditional materials. It is extremely light and has an anti-flootation collar which holds it in position while being surrounded in concrete.

Enter 106 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD



New products

Pencil palace

DESIGNED to co-ordinate with other Elton Office Products' range of organisers for the home, office and studio, the Pencil Palace has a sculptured, radiused form with five compartments of different heights in which to store pens, pencils, rulers, paper clips — all the jumble that accumulates in most work and domestic environments. The Pencil Palace is manufactured in see-through, smoke-coloured plastic and is available at under £5.

Enter 113 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

Kitemarked cover

WAVIN has announced that its Osmadrain cast-iron cover and frame for universal inspection chambers has been awarded a BSI kitemark. Developed for Grade C loading applications, the nominal 450mm circular cover and frame has been designed to give long-term reliability, coupled with ease of installation. There are two versions — a standard single seal cover and a double seal with stainless steel locking screws for internal applications.

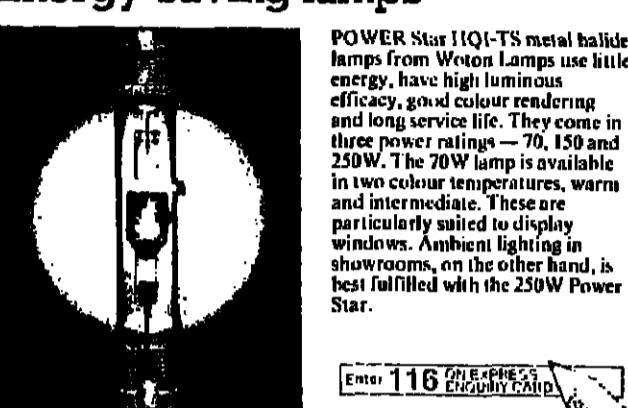
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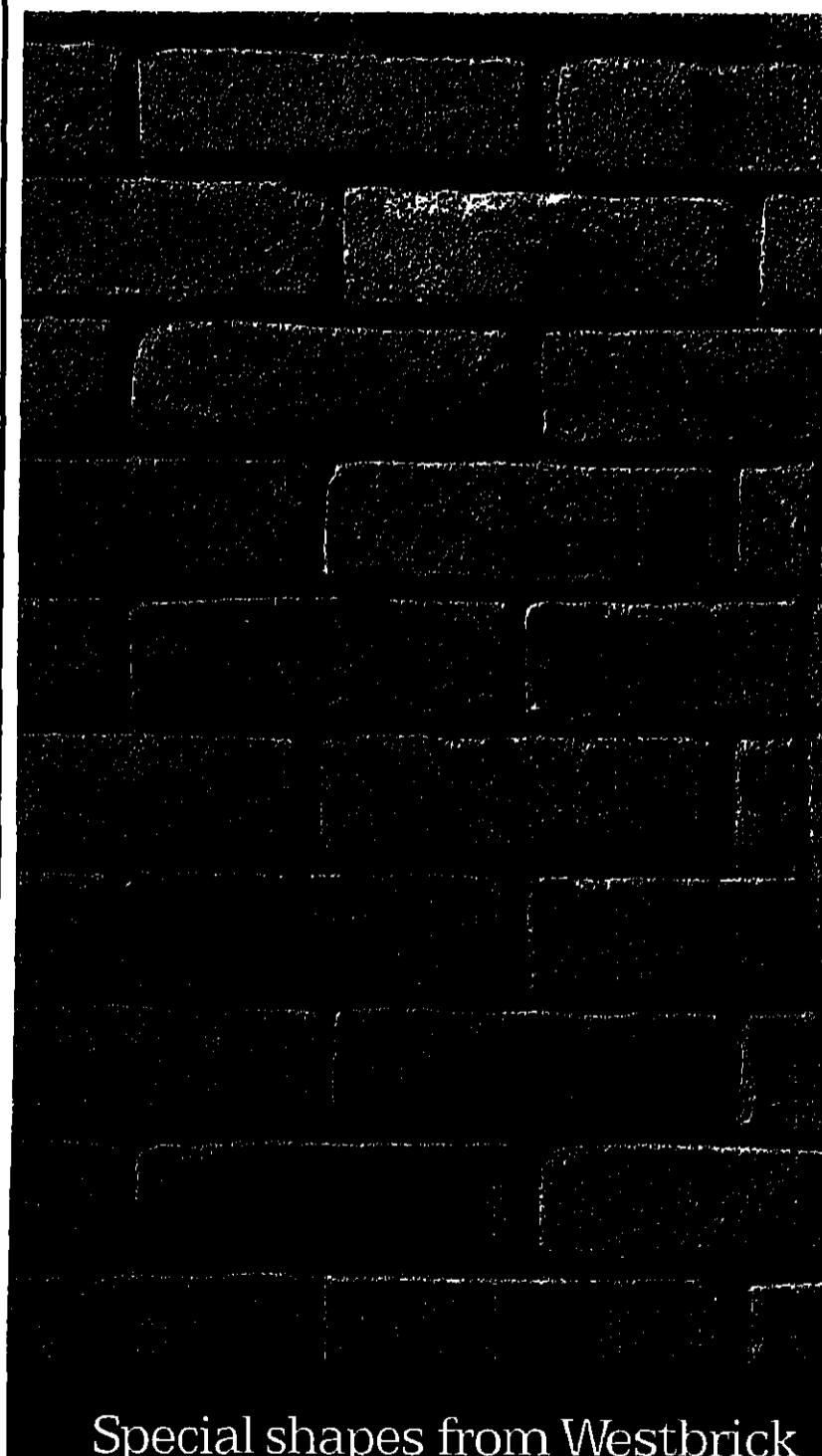
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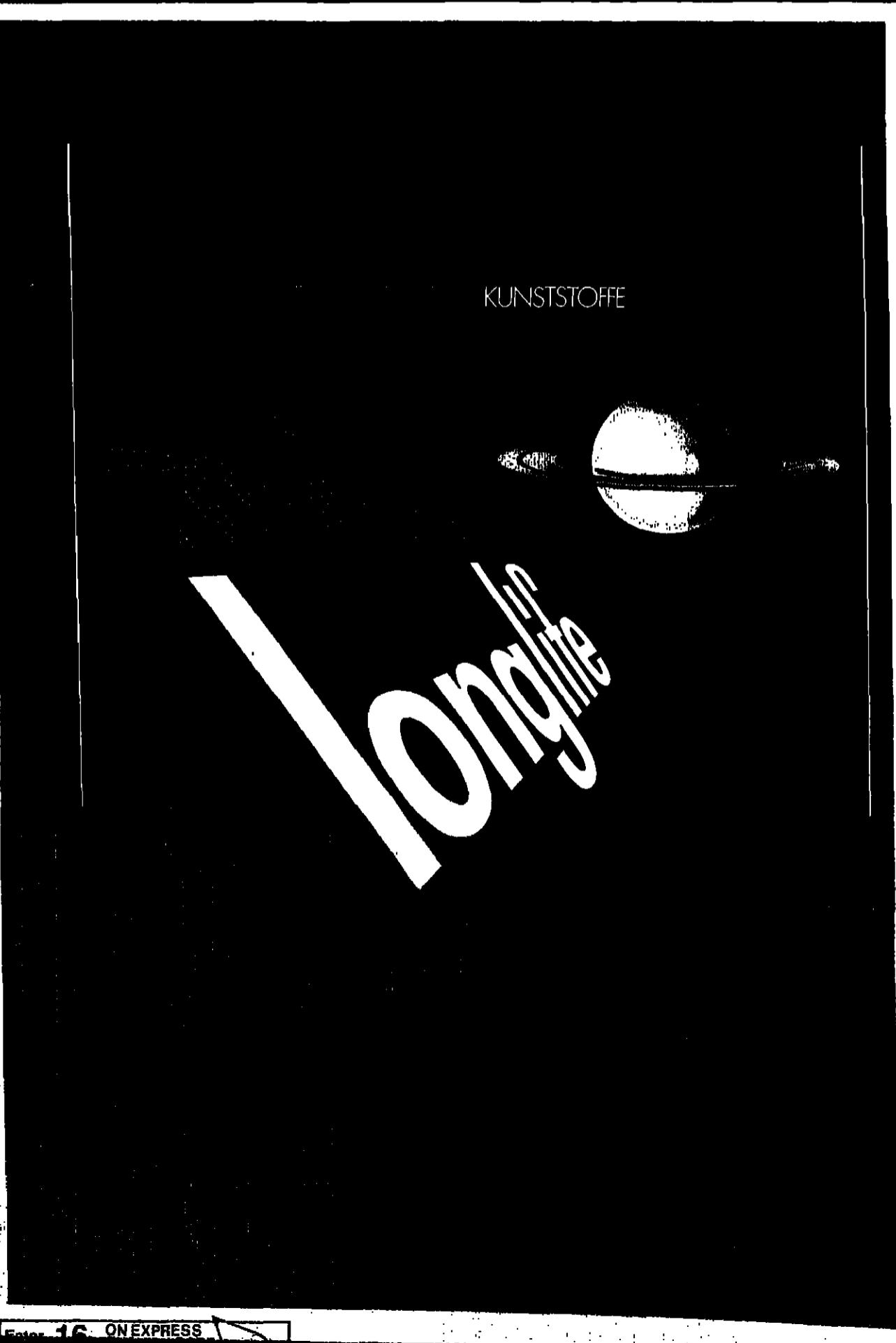
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Salary £13,376, or pro-rata.

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Enthusiasm and the ability to work creatively within cost limits are important. Qualified to at least RICS/RIBA Part II and/or relevant experience essential. For more details about these positions please phone Sean Murphy on ext. 125 or Harold Tiffin ext. 393.

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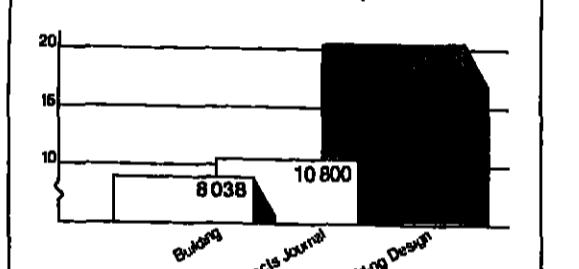
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Enthusiasm and the ability to work creatively within cost limits are important. Qualified to at least RICS/RIBA Part II and/or relevant experience essential. For more details about these positions please phone Sean Murphy on ext. 125 or Harold Tiffin ext. 393.

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Salary £9,976-£11,299

Required to carry out dimensional surveys and levelling; produce accurate drawings relating to surveys and deal with minor building construction matters. For more details please phone Peter Kindred on ext. 195 or Eric Lester ext. 189.

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c.£11k+ benefits

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MANCHESTER City Council

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VERNON GREEN PARTNERSHIP - BATH
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Bovis House, Winchcombe Street,
Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 2PG.

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Does your background and personality match our image? Then write today with full CV details to David Taylor, Partner, Stephen George & Partners, 170 London Road, Leicester LE2 1ND.

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Epsom, Surrey KT18 5BW.

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If you would like to discuss the possibility further, please telephone Epsom (0372) 23565, Extinction 2728, or send your CV to: Mrs K. Jackson, Atkins Sheppard Fidler and Associates, Woodcote Grove, Ashley Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5BW.

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Salary by negotiation.

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Attractive salary and benefits, including paid overtime.

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The Barton Willmore Partnership
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Breams Farmhouse, Bourne Close
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TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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(Two Posts)

£3,513 to £3,764 p.a.

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(Three Posts)

£2,311 to £2,717 p.a.

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(One Post)

£2,311 to £2,717 p.a.

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ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

(One Post)

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For further details and application forms please contact the Personnel Department, Level 6, Civic Offices, Civic Centre, Reading, Berkshire RG1 7TD. Telephone: Reading (0734) 86911 ext. 2032. Closing date: 17th October 1986

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Tarmac Homes Essex

have vacancies for

CAD ARCHITECTS & TECHNICIANS

Simply streets ahead

Eckard House, Easton Road, Witham, Essex CM8 2DW Telephone: (0376) 520544

ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Tarmac Homes Essex Ltd., a member of the Tarmac Group, are

continuing their rapid expansion in private housing development. The company are now seeking to appoint a suitably qualified engineer to assist in the preparation of roads and sewer design, negotiation with Local Authorities and statutory undertakers and liaison with other departments. The successful applicant will be

expected to demonstrate initiative and self motivation. Salary and benefits including a company car will reflect the importance of the position associated with this successful company.

Written applications to:

Bob Cartwright

Design & Planning Manager

This is an opportunity to use

your CAD experience utilising our GDS computer system, while participating fully within a design team.

Please write with CV to:

Leslie Welch
Rayleigh House
2 Richmond Hill, Richmond,
Surrey TW10 6QX



READING
Borough Council

HUBBARD FORD PARTNERSHIP
Young team with large number of commercial and historic building projects require
2 ARCHITECTS
with 3 years London experience.
Ambition and talent essential with a proven ability to run their own jobs.
Generous salaries for the right candidates.
Ring Ian McInnes or Ian Smith on 01-499 9931.

Renton Howard Wood Levin Partnership

RHWL77 Endell Street
London WC2H 9AJ

A young
ARCHITECT
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Please apply with C.V. marking your application "Offices" to:
Janette Payne at the above address.

WORKING FOR LAMBETH

A positive approach for people with disabilities

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, Lambeth Council is committed to increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Although the jobs in this advertisement are open to any applicants, applications will be particularly welcome from people with disabilities.



DIRECTORATE OF TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Planning Officer —

Urban Design

Ref T8
Salary: £11,864-£14,289 p.a. inc. pro rata

Job Share — 17 hours per week
Worked over Thursday and Friday

Applications are invited for the post of Architect/Planner or Architect in the Urban Design Group of the Directorate of Town Planning and Economic Development.

The work of the group involves the following:

preparation of conservation area proposals;
design advice and grants/loan aid scheme supervision for historic buildings;
townscape advice and feasibility studies for new development;
preparation of environmental enhancement schemes;
advice on town planning applications.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge and experience of urban design and conservation or possess a keen interest to acquire the necessary experience.

Although a professional qualification in Town Planning and other related professional discipline is desirable, an architect with suitable experience or keen interest will also be considered.

Application forms and Job Descriptions are obtainable from the Personnel Section, Directorate of Town Planning and Economic Development, London Borough of Lambeth, 9-15 New Park Road, London SW2 4DU or telephone 01 874 9844 ext. 172. Closing date 18 October 1988.

LAMBETH

SERVICES WELL WORTH DEFENDING
As part of the Central London Opportunities Policy implementation, we welcome enquiries of our local authority, business, and civic representatives for further information, and from residents, on key issues.

ELLIS WILLIAMS PARTNERSHIP
urgently seek qualified
ARCHITECTS
with 2-5 years post graduate experience to work on new commercial, educational and industrial projects.
Write with C.V. to:
C. S. Spencer
Ellis Williams Partnership
26 Rodney Street
Liverpool L1 8TL
Tel: 051 709 9816

SITE ARCHITECT
MANCHESTER
15 Month exciting leisure pool contract starting late November.
QUALIFIED ARCHITECTS
COVENT GARDEN
Architects with at least 2 years experience to work on leisure projects.

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ARCHITECTS AND LEISURE PLANNERS
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01-240 2430

Ruddle Wilkinson & Partners
Architects • Interior Designers • Quantity Surveyors • Town Planners •
We have an exciting, varied & expanding workload and need to reinforce our highly motivated young team with

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SENIOR TECHNICIANS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Please send C.V. to:
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84 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2SW.

Middlesbrough Borough Council
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Senior Architectural Technicians

£9,513-£10,164

Vacancies exist in the architectural service for qualified technicians to join a group of architects and technicians working on a wide range of building types involving existing buildings as well as new build.

If you are interested in joining a pleasant, friendly office, are prepared to work hard and can show a commitment to producing a good quality end product please apply for an application form and job description to Chief Economic Development and Property Officer, Middlesbrough Borough Council P.O. Box 65, Vancouver House, Central Mews, Guisborough Street, Middlesbrough Cleveland, TS1 1QP Telephone 245432 Extension 3882.

If you would like to talk about this job you are welcome to speak to Tom Ridling (Assistant Chief Officer — Architecture) on Extension 3767.

Closing date 10 October 1988.

It is the policy of Middlesbrough Borough Council to provide equal employment opportunities and consideration will be given to all suitably experienced and qualified applicants regardless of handicap, sex or race.

The Council has a policy of inviting for interview all disabled persons who have written support of their Disability Assessment Officer. Job sharing facilities are available.

The staffing structure of the Authority and the Planning Department has recently been revised by the Council and we are now seeking:

Principal Architect

Grade SO1 — Scale PO4
£10,569-£12,594

Hart District contains 17 conservation areas, mainly in old villages including the outstanding conservation area of Oldham. The review list of buildings of architectural and historic interest is shortly to be published and contains over 1000 entries. The District is, however, subject to intense pressure for change and development and the task of this postholder will be to secure the retention and enhancement of what is best (particularly in the built environment) and to promote the highest standards of design in new development.

Generous relocation expenses (Up to £2,700 plus removals)
Temporary housing subject to availability

Application forms obtainable from:
The Chief Personnel Officer
Civil Service, Fleet
Hants GU13 8AE
(Telephone: Fleet 022122, ext 341)
Closing date: 28th October, 1988

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Hart

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Reporting directly to the Project Architect, you will be responsible for preparing feasibility studies and working drawings plus sketch designs of buildings and civil works.

This is an ideal opportunity for someone with approximately one year's

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This position is initially offered on a one year contract basis at a salary of £11-12k depending on age and experience plus benefits including flexible working hours and 22 days' annual holiday.

Please write with full CV or telephone for an application form, quoting ref. RB12, to: Recruitment Manager, Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RX. Tel: 01-405 4980 (24 hrs).

Please write with c.v. to:
Eric Lyons Cunningham Partnership, Mill House Studio, Bridge Road, East Heslere, Surrey, KT8 5HF.

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CLERK OF WORKS

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are looking for an Assistant Architect with four to five years' experience, to work on an interesting project involving high-standard refurbishing and new work on a Conference and Training Centre for a major International Company.

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have a number of exciting new projects and are looking for

Architects

who are creative designers and good project managers to work in our office in

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CHANNEL ISLANDS PRACTICE
Architect
With about 10-12 days, maximum 3 years experience in a variety of fields involved with varied workload
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ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN
If you have some office and job numbers experience in a technical field, and work in a particular discipline in interest
Please apply for an apprenticeship and salary 10-12 months
Stanley, Horner & Allman The Studio 1 Whitefriars Lane Barnes SW13 6AF

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for Industrial, Commercial and Housing Projects of all sizes currently in progress

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Must be capable of working under pressure
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Douglas Evans Associates
11 Bedford Place, Marylebone, London NW1 2PS
01-580 2828

ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN
required by busy Small Practice. Sound knowledge of Building Construction and regulations essential.
Salary by agreement
Please write or telephone:
Mr J.M. Smith RIBA
Grosvenor Associates Ltd
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Applicants aged 22-35 years with experience in private sector housing and industrial projects. Generous package including car for the right person.
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Contact Yolande Craig
01 609 7701

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PRINCIPAL of well established reputable **Builder/Architectural practice** seeking Partner to take over office.
Night shift young practice looking to buy out.
Principal would take for few years part-time.
White brief details in confidence to:
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30 Calderwood Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6QH

We are Architects, Town Planners and Interior Designers with a current workload in excess of £500m. We would be interested in talking to other Practices with a view to merging our respective resources and skills.
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c/o Building Design
30 Calderwood Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6QH

Ring 01-855 7777 Extension 571, or write to him at:
Estates Times Appointments, Morgan-Grampian House, 30 Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH